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(54) Method and device for correlation detection, and communication terminal device

(57) A correlation detection device capable of detecting the prescribed code sequence from input signal with a simple construction. Since the input signal (S40), after the amplitude of this signal is regulated to the fixed value, is entered into the matched filter means (71), an accidental output by the matched filter means of the cor-

relation value having large signal level can be prevented, and only code sequence to be detected can be correctly detected, and thereby the correlation detection device capable of detecting the prescribed code sequence from input signal correctly and with a simple construction can be realized.

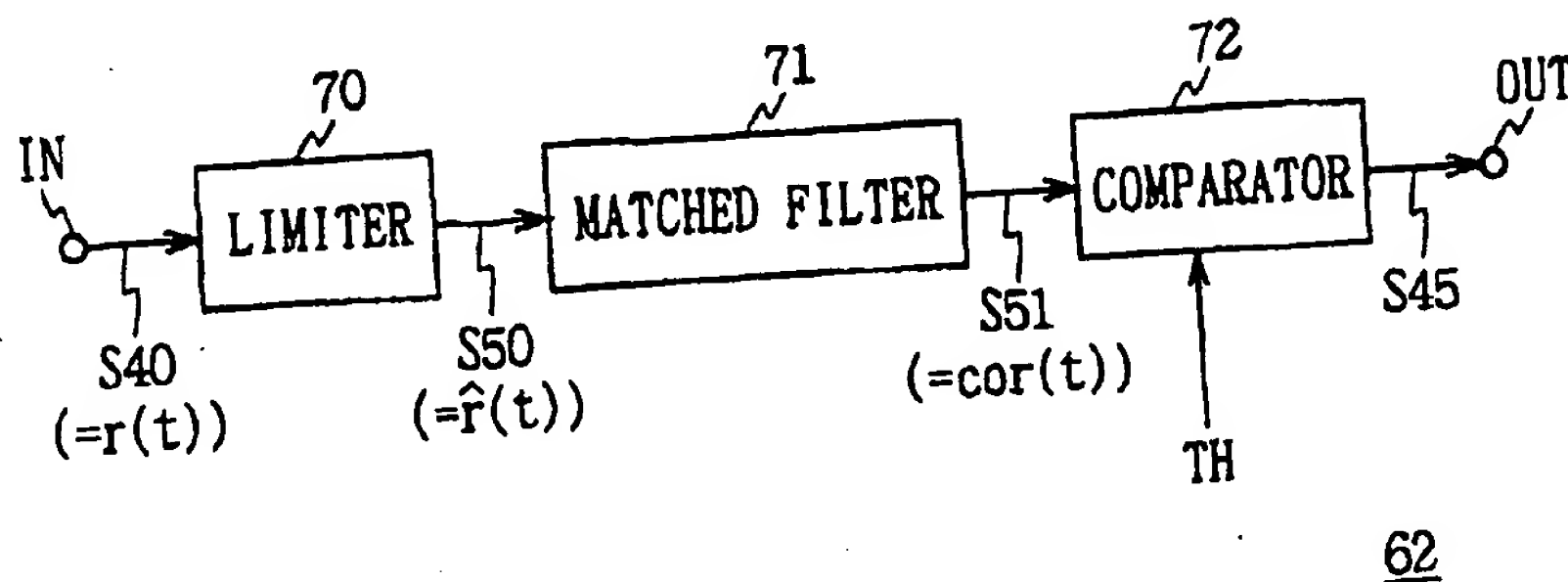


FIG. 10

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Description

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION5 FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0001] The present invention relates to a correlation detection device, its method and a communication terminal device for detecting special codes contained in input signal and is suitably applied to the case of setting the timing using special codes especially in the wireless LAN to wireless connect the plural number of terminal devices.

10 DESCRIPTION OF THE RELATED ART

[0002] In recent years, with the development of high technology in computers, LAN (local area network) has been formed by connecting multiple computers and files and data are used in common and electronic mails and data are transmitted extensively. In the conventional LAN, computers are connected via cables such as using optical fiber, coaxial cable, or twisted pair cable each other.

[0003] However, in the wired LAN, it is very difficult to install the LAN since the installation work is necessary in order to connect these and such wired LAN requires very complicated cabling. Thus, the wireless LAN has become a focus of attention to solve the wiring problem of the conventional LAN cable system.

20 [0004] As the wireless LAN, the system that performs data communications according to CDMA (code division multiple access) system using spread spectrum has been proposed. In this CDMA system, the transmission data is multiplied by the PN code (pseudo noise code) and spectrum of the transmission data will be spread. The data transmitted upon being conducted the spectrum spread is demodulated multiplying by the same PN code as the transmitting end. This CDMA system has an excellent interference resistivity as well as having adequate security.

25 [0005] In recent years, with the dissemination of information through multimedia, data large in size such as video and audio have been widely handled. Accordingly, it is required to increase the transmission rate in order that a large volume of data such as video and audio can be transmitted in the wireless LAN. However, in the spread spectrum modulation, if the data is transmitted at a high velocity rate such as approximately 30 [Mbps], the bandwidth more than 300 [MHz] becomes necessary. Such broad band cannot be secured according to the present frequency allocation, and also it is very difficult to communicate using such broad band.

30 [0006] Moreover, in the spread spectrum, synchronization recovery time for matching the phase of data code transmitted and the phase of code to be generated at the receiver for demodulation is necessary when demodulating. Accordingly, in the spread spectrum, a sequence of bits for synchronization is inserted into each packet in order to get synchronization at high speed, and due to such bits sequence for synchronization, it causes a problem that bits other than effective data would be increased.

35 [0007] Hence, the applicant of this patent proposes that data will be transmitted by the OFDM (orthogonal frequency division multiplexing) scheme, as well as the data communications will be conducted by the TDMA (time division multiple access) scheme making one frame as a unit, and M-sequence code will be transmitted at the head of one frame, the transmit/receive timing will be set relative to this M-sequence code, and the transmit/receive timing of each communication terminal device will be specified by the control information from the communication control terminal device. Since in this OFDM scheme, data will be transmitted in parallel utilizing the plural number of subcarriers orthogonally arranged, transmission rate can be increased easily and if jitter occurs; it can be demodulated without error. Also, at the time when receiving, since transmit/receive timing is set relative to the M-sequence code on the head of one frame, data can be reproduced by demodulating only the necessary symbol in the frame using this time information.

45 [0008] Accordingly, in the case of receiving the M-sequence code and setting the timing, it is necessary to detect the M-sequence code from the receiving signal. As the circuit for detecting such M-sequence code, utilization of a correlation detection circuit using matched filter can be considered.

[0009] At this point, the correlation detection circuit having a matched filter will be described referring to Fig. 1. As shown in Fig. 1, a receive signal S1 is entered into a matched filter 2 via an input terminal IN in the correlation detection circuit 1. The matched filter 2 is made up of digital filter such as FIR filter, and as shown in Fig. 2, it is comprised of delay circuits $D_1 - D_n$, multipliers $K_1 - K_n$ and an adder A_1 . The coefficient, that multipliers $K_1 - K_n$ multiply, will be set to "1" or "-1" according to the code to be detected. And if the correlation between the code set to the coefficient of multipliers $K_1 - K_n$ and the input code received is strong, the output level of the adder A_1 becomes large.

50 [0010] Then, the matched filter 2 transmits an output signal of this adder A_1 to a comparator 3 of the succeeding stage as a correlation value signal S2. The comparator 3 compares the signal level of the correlation value signal S2 to be transmitted from the matched filter 2 and the signal level of the threshold signal TH to be supplied from the outside, and if the signal level of the correlation value signal S2 is larger than the threshold signal, outputs a detection output S3 showing that the signal having correlation has been received via an output terminal OUT.

[0011] In the case where the M-sequence code is supplied as the receive signal S1, output of the matched filter becomes large and since the signal level of the correlation value signal S2 becomes larger than the threshold signal TH, the detection output S3 showing that the M-sequence code has been received is sent out from the correlation detection circuit 1.

[0012] However, in the correlation detection circuit 1 constructed as described above, there are cases where detection output S3 would not be sent out even when the M-sequence code is received but if the signal level of the signal other than the M-sequence code received immediately before is large.

[0013] In general, at the preceding stage of the correlation detection circuit 1, AGC (automatic gain control) circuit is provided and this adjusts the receive signal S1 to the prescribed power. As described above, there are cases where the detection output S3 would not be output because of this AGC circuit even when the M-sequence code is received. For example, as shown in Fig. 3A, the M-sequence code is simply imbedded in the other signal even if the AGC circuit functions, uniform power adjustments will be conducted. And thus the correlation value signal S2, that is the output of the matched filter 2, increases when the M-sequence code is received. And as a result, the detection output S3 showing that the M-sequence code is received normally can be sent out by the correlation value signal S2 exceeding the threshold TH.

[0014] However, as shown in Fig. 3B, when the other receive signal received immediately before the M-sequence code is large, the processing to decrease the gain is conducted by the AGC circuit. However, since the recovery time is required for the AGC circuit to increase the gain, there are cases where the low gain state continues for some time even when the M-sequence code is received. Accordingly, the receive signal of the M-sequence code will not be amplified and as a result, the output of the matched filter, the correlation value signal S2, will not exceed the threshold TH, and there are cases where the detection signal S3 would not be transmitted even though the M-sequence code has been received.

[0015] Furthermore, if the receive signal other than the M-sequence code received immediately before is extremely large, there is a possibility that the correlation value signal S2, which is the output of the matched filter 2, outputs the detection output S3 exceeding the threshold TH by mistake even though the M-sequence code has not been received.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0016] In view of the foregoing, an object of this invention is to provide a correlation detection device and its method and a communication terminal device capable of detecting the prescribed code sequence from input signal correctly with a simple construction.

[0017] The correlation detection device for detecting code sequence to be detected from an input signal using correlation, comprises limiter means for regulating the amplitude of the input signal to the prescribed constant value according to plus/minus of the input signal, matched filter means for outputting a correlation value signal upon detecting the correlation between an output signal supplied from the limiter means and the code sequence to be detected, and comparison means for judging whether the input signal is the code sequence to be detected or not by comparing the signal level of the correlation value signal with the prescribed threshold.

[0018] Further, in the method for correlation detection for detecting the code sequence to be detected from an input signal using correlation, the amplitude of the input signal is regulated to the prescribed constant value according to plus/minus of the input signal, the correlation value between the input signal, of which the amplitude is fixed to the prescribed value and the code sequence to be detected is detected, and whether the input signal is the code sequence to be detected or not is judged by comparing the signal level of the correlation value with the prescribed threshold.

[0019] Further, the communication terminal device for generating transmission symbol sequence by performing a prescribed modulation processing based on data to be transmitted, and transmitting and receiving a transmission signal generated by performing a prescribed transmission processing on the transmission symbol sequence, comprises receiving means for receiving the transmission signal as a receive signal, demodulating means for performing a prescribed demodulation processing on the receive signal, correlation detecting means including limiter means for regulating the amplitude of input signal to a prescribed constant value according to plus/minus of the input signal to which the modulation processing by the modulating means, matched filter means for outputting a correlation value signal upon detecting the correlation between an output signal supplied from the limiter means and code sequence to be detected, and comparison means for judging whether the input signal is the code sequence to be detected or not by comparing the signal level of the correlation value signal with the prescribed threshold, and control means for controlling the modulation processing and the demodulation processing with a timing when the correlation detecting means judges the input signal is code sequence to be detected as a basis.

[0020] Furthermore, a radio communication system comprises a plurality of radio communication terminals for data communication and a radio communication control terminal for controlling radio communication. The radio communication control terminal includes transmission means and receiving means performing data transmission and receiving by the OFDM method, and synchronization-code generating means for generating a code sequence for synchronization

acquisition. Each of the plurality of radio communication terminals includes transmission means and receiving means performing data transmission and receiving by the OFDM method, synchronization-code detecting means for detecting the code sequence for synchronization acquisition, and timer means set by the synchronization-code detecting means. Data is modulated by the OFDM method and the data is multiplexed by the TDMA method with a frame structure having the specified number of symbols, between each of the plurality of radio communication terminals and the radio communication control terminal, the radio communication control terminal transmits the code for synchronization acquisition to the plurality of radio communication terminals in each frame, and each of the plurality of radio communication terminals receives the code for synchronization acquisition, sets the timer means according to the receiving timing of the code for synchronization acquisition, and sets the transmission timing and the receiving timing with the timer means being used as the reference.

[0021] The nature, principle and utility of the invention will become more apparent from the following detailed description when read in conjunction with the accompanying drawings in which like parts are designated by like reference numerals or characters.

15 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0022] In the accompanying drawings:

Fig. 1 is a block diagram showing the construction of the conventional correlation detection circuit;
 Fig. 2 is a block diagram showing the construction of a matched filter;
 Figs. 3A and 3B are brief linear diagrams illustrating degradation of the detection sensitivity of the correlation detection circuit affected by the AGC circuit;
 Fig. 4 is a block diagram showing the construction of a wireless LAN system according to the present invention;
 Fig. 5 is a block diagram showing the construction of a wireless communication unit provided in the communication control terminal device;
 Fig. 6 is a brief linear diagram showing subcarrier of the OFDM system;
 Fig. 7 is a simplified block diagram illustrating the signal processing of the OFDM system;
 Fig. 8 is a brief linear diagram showing the symbol construction of the OFDM system;
 Fig. 9 is a block diagram showing the construction of a wireless communication unit provided in the communication terminal device;
 Fig. 10 is a block diagram showing the construction of a correlation detection circuit;
 Figs. 11A to 11E are characteristic curvilinear diagrams showing characteristics of the correlation detection circuit;
 Fig. 12 is a block diagram showing the construction of another correlation detection circuit;
 Figs. 13A to 13C are characteristic curvilinear diagrams showing characteristics of the correlation detection circuit;
 Fig. 14 is a brief linear diagram showing the construction of one frame;
 Fig. 15 is a sequence chart showing the communication sequence;
 Fig. 16 is a brief linear diagram illustrating the data construction within one frame;
 Fig. 17 is a block diagram showing the construction of the correlation detection circuit according to the other embodiment;
 Fig. 18 is a block diagram showing the construction of the correlation detection circuit according to the other embodiment;
 Fig. 19 is a brief linear diagram illustrating the transmission method of M-sequence code according to the other embodiment; and
 Fig. 20 is a brief linear diagram illustrating the method to allocate the reference phase to subcarriers.

45 DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE EMBODIMENT

[0023] Preferred embodiments of the present invention will be described with reference to the accompanying drawings:

50 (1) The First Embodiment

(1-1) General Construction of Wireless LAN System

[0024] In Fig. 4, 10 generally shows a wireless LAN system according to the present invention. This wireless LAN is roughly comprised of multiple communication terminal devices 11A, 11B and a communication control terminal device 12. The communication terminal devices 11A and 11B are comprised of data terminal devices 13A and 13B connected with wireless communication units 14A and 14B respectively. The communication control device 12 is comprised of a

wireless communication unit 16 connected with a data terminal device 15. In this wireless LAN system 10, data communication is conducted between the communication terminal devices 11A and 11B, and data communication between these communication terminal devices 11A and 11B will be controlled by the communication control terminal device 12. In this connection, the communication control terminal device 12 can be formed only of the wireless communication unit 16.

[0025] The wireless communication units 14A and 14B provided in the communication terminal devices 11A and 11B are comprised of transmitters 17A, 17B, receivers 18A, 18B, control units 19A, 19B, antennas 20A, 20B, and antenna switching units 21A, 21B respectively. Transmitters 17A and 17B, and receivers 18A, 18B are so constructed that these can perform the data communication via wireless circuits according to the OFDM system.

[0026] On the other hand, the wireless communication unit 16 provided in the communication control terminal device 12 is comprised of a transmitter 22, a receiver 23, a control unit 24, a resource information storage unit 25, an antenna 26 and an antenna switching unit 27. These transmitter 22 and receiver 23 are also constructed in order that these can conduct data communications via wireless circuits according to the OFDM system. Moreover, in the resource information storage unit 25, the resource information concerning the allocation time of data communication of the communication terminal devices 11A and 11B will be stored.

[0027] As described above, data communication will be conducted according to the OFDM system in this wireless LAN system 10. In this wireless LAN system, such as making 147455 symbols of OFDM (equivalent to 4 [ms]) as 1 frame, time division multiplexed data will be transmitted within this frame.

[0028] The M-sequence code for synchronization acquisition will be transmitted to the head of 1 frame from the wireless communication unit 16 of the communication control terminal device 12. This M-sequence code for synchronization acquisition will be received by the wireless communication units 14A and 14B of the communication terminal devices 11A and 11B respectively, the timing for data transmission/reception will be set relative to this received timing.

[0029] When the data communication request exists in the communication terminal device 11A, 11B, a transmission request will be transmitted from wireless communication unit 14A, 14B of the communication terminal device 11A, 11B to the wireless communication unit 16 of the communication control terminal device 12. In this wireless communication unit 16 of the communication control terminal device 12, transmission allocation time of each communication terminal device 11A, 11B will be determined based on the transmission request and the resource information, and the control information containing this transmission allocation time will be transmitted to the wireless communication unit 14A, 14B of communication terminal device 11A, 11B respectively from the wireless communication unit 16 of the communication control terminal device 12. In the wireless communication unit 14A, 14B of each communication terminal device 11A, 11B, data transmission/reception will be conducted according to this transmission allocation time. At this point, the data transmission/reception will be conducted relative to the M-sequence code for acquiring synchronization to be transmitted to the head of one frame.

(1-2) Wireless Communication Unit of Communication Control Terminal Device

[0030] In this chapter the wireless communication unit 16 provided in the communication control terminal device 12 will be described referring to Fig. 5. As shown in Fig. 5, communication controller 30 is provided in the wireless communication unit 16 and data transmission can be conducted with the data terminal device 15 via this communication controller 30.

[0031] A transmission data S10 from the communication controller 30 will be supplied into DQPSK (differentially encoded quadrature phase shift keying) modulation circuit 31. The DQPSK modulation circuit 31 DQPSK modulates this transmission data S10 and outputs the resulting transmission signal S11 to the serial-parallel converter 32.

[0032] The serial-parallel converter 32 converts the transmission signal S11 to be supplied in a serial data sequence to the transmission signal S12 of a parallel data sequence and outputs this to the inverse fast Fourier transform circuit (IFFT) 33. The inverse fast Fourier transform circuit 33, applying the inverse Fourier transform to the transmission signal S12, maps the transmission signal S12 to the data in the frequency region and outputs the resulting transmission signal S13 to the parallel-serial conversion circuit 34. The parallel-serial conversion circuit 34 converts the transmission signal S13 to be supplied in a parallel data sequence to a serial data sequence and outputs the resulting transmission signal S14 to a shifting switch 35.

[0033] Here, the serial-parallel conversion circuit 32, the inverse fast Fourier transform circuit 33 and the parallel-serial conversion circuit 34 are circuits to convert the transmission signal S11 to multi-carrier signal according to the OFDM system. The OFDM system is the system that allocates the low bit rate signal to each sub-carrier using multiple sub-carriers, which are orthogonal to each other, making the frequency interval to be f_0 so that no interference occurs between codes and on the whole, high bit rate can be obtained according to this system.

[0034] The spectrum of transmission waveform of this OFDM is shown in Fig. 6. As shown in Fig. 6, in this OFDM scheme, a transmission signal S11 will be allocated to sub-carriers placed orthogonal to each other, with frequency interval f_0 and the transmission signal S11 will be transmitted.

[0035] In this OFDM scheme, the transmission signal S11 is converted to parallel signal, and applying the inverse Fourier transform processing to this parallel converted transmission signal S12, the transmission signal S12 will be allocated to each subcarrier. On the other hand, when decoding, signal components of subcarrier per f_0 interval will be captured and data allocated to the subcarrier will be taken out by conducting the Fourier transform processing.

5 [0036] As shown in Fig. 7, in this example, 51 samples to be transmitted from the DQPSK modulation circuit 31 will be converted to the parallel data by the serial-parallel conversion circuit 32 and mapped onto the frequency region. The output of this serial-parallel conversion circuit 32 is applied the inverse Fourier transform processing by the inverse fast Fourier transform circuit 33 and effective symbol of 64 samples will be put out from the inverse fast Fourier transform circuit 33. Guard interval of 8 samples will be added to this effective symbol of 64 samples.

10 [0037] Accordingly, in this example, as shown in Fig. 8, one symbol is made up of 72 samples, the effective symbol of 64-sample and the guard interval of 8-sample. The symbol interval T_{symbol} is such as ($T_{\text{symbol}} = 1.953 [\mu\text{s}]$), sample frequency T_{sample} is such as ($T_{\text{sample}} = 27.127 [\text{ns}]$), and the sample frequency f_{sample} is such as ($f_{\text{sample}} = 36.864 [\text{MHz}]$).

[0038] In this OFDM system, since the data is divided into multiple carriers and transmitted, the time per one symbol becomes longer. And since the guard interval is provided in time base, this system has an advantage not susceptible to effects of jitter and multipath. The guard interval is selected to approximately 10 - 20 percent of the effective symbol length.

[0039] More specifically, in the OFDM scheme, it is necessary to cut out the effective symbol length from a sequence of receiving signal and conduct the Fourier transform processing when demodulation is conducted. Even if errors exist when cutting out effective symbols due to the jitter, frequency components do not change and only the phase difference occurs due to the existence of guard interval. Accordingly, demodulation is possible by conducting the phase correction inserting the known pattern into signal or by counteracting the phase difference using differential coding. In the case of normal QPSK modulation, it is necessary to match the timing per each bit. However, in the case of the OFDM system, few bits difference causes degradation of only few dB in sensitivity, and demodulation is possible.

20 [0040] At this point, returning to Fig. 5 explanations will be continued. The transmission signal S14 to be transmitted from the parallel-serial conversion circuit 34 will be supplied to an input terminal 35A of the shifting switch 35. The M-sequence code S15 formed at the M-sequence code generation circuit 36 will be supplied to the other side input terminal 35B of the shifting switch 35.

[0041] In the case of transmitting the M-sequence code S15 as synchronizing signal, the switch 35 selects and outputs the M-sequence code S15, and in all other cases, it selects and outputs the transmission signal S14. An output signal S16 from the switch 35 will be supplied to the frequency conversion circuit 36. A local oscillation signal S17 is supplied to the frequency conversion circuit 36 from a PLL synthesizer 37. The frequency conversion circuit 36 forms a transmission signal S18 frequency converted to the fixed frequency by multiplying this local oscillation signal S17 by the output signal S16 and outputs this to a power amplifier 38. As the frequency to be used for this transmission signal S18, such as 2.4 [GHz], 5.7 [GHz] or 19 [GHz] band of quasi-microwave band can be considered.

35 [0042] The power amplifier 38 amplifies the transmission signal S18 to the prescribed power and supplies the resulting transmission signal S19 to an input terminal 27A of the switch forming the antenna switching unit 27. The antenna switcher 27 is a switch to shift the connection to the antenna 26 when transmitting signal and when receiving signal; at the time when transmitting data, it is shifted to the input terminal 27A side, while when receiving data, it is shifted to the terminal 27B. Thus, the transmission signal S19 is supplied to the antenna 26 via this switcher 27 and transmitted from the antenna 26.

40 [0043] On the other hand, a receive signal S20 received by the antenna 26 when receiving the data is supplied to a receiving amplifier 39 (generally called as LNA (low noise amplifier)) via the switcher 27 and after being amplified, it is supplied to a frequency conversion circuit 40.

[0044] In this frequency conversion circuit 40, the local oscillation signal S21 from the PLL synthesizer 37 is supplied and the frequency conversion circuit 40 forms a receive signal S22 with medium frequency by multiplying this local oscillation signal S21 by the receive signal S20, and outputs this to the serial-parallel conversion circuit 41.

45 [0045] The serial-parallel conversion circuit 41 parallel converts the receive signal S22 and outputs the resulting receive signal S23 to the fast Fourier transform circuit 42 (FFT). The fast Fourier transform circuit 42 conducts the Fourier transform processing to the receive signal S23 and outputs the resulting receive signal S24 to the parallel-serial conversion circuit 43. The parallel-serial conversion circuit 43 converts the receive signal S24 to the receive signal S25 of serial data stream and outputs this to the DQPSK demodulation circuit 44.

50 [0046] Here, the serial-parallel conversion circuit 41, the fast Fourier transform circuit 42 and the parallel-serial conversion circuit 43 conduct the decoding of the OFDM scheme to the receive signal S22. More specifically, in the serial-parallel conversion circuit 41, effective data are cut out and receiving signal waveform will be captured in every f_0 intervals and converted to parallel data. Output of this serial-parallel conversion circuit 41 will be supplied to the fast Fourier transform circuit 42 and the Fourier transform processing will be executed. Thus, by conducting the Fourier transform processing to the waveforms sampled in every f_0 intervals, the OFDM scheme decoding will be conducted.

55 [0047] The DQPSK demodulation circuit 44, applying the DQPSK demodulation processing to the receive signal

S25, restores receive data S26 and outputs this to the communication controller 30. The communication controller 30 outputs this receive data S26 to the data terminal device 15.

[0048] In this wireless communication unit 16, the whole operation will be controlled by the controller 45. The data transmission and data reception will be conducted based on the command from the controller 45, and the communication controller 30 conducts data delivery of transmission data S10 or receive data S26 between the data terminal device 15.

[0049] In this wireless LAN system, data will be transmitted by the TDMA scheme making one frame as a unit, and the M-sequence code for obtaining synchronization will be sent to one symbol of the head of one frame. In order to realize such control in the wireless communication unit 16 of the communication control terminal device 12, the M-sequence code generation circuit 36 and a memory comprising a resource information storage unit 25 and a timer 46 are provided. In this case, the switch 35 will be shifted to the input terminal 35B side at the timing of the head symbol of one frame and thus, the M-sequence code will be transmitted at the timing of the frame head.

[0050] When a transmission request is sent from the wireless communication unit 14A, 14B of communication terminal device 11A, 11B. This transmission request is received by the antenna 26 and OFDM demodulated by the fast Fourier transform circuit 42 and then DQPSK demodulated by the DQPSK demodulation circuit 44 and supplied to the communication controller 30. And the demodulated receive data showing the transmission request will be transmitted from the communication controller 30 to the controller 45.

[0051] The controller 45 is connected to the resource information storage unit 25. In this resource information storage unit 25, the resource information on the allocation time of each communication terminal device 11A, 11B to be transmitted per one frame is stored. The controller 45 determines the transmission allocation time of each communication terminal device 11A, 11B based on the received transmission request and communication resource residue. The control information to show this transmission allocation time will be sent from the controller 45 to the communication controller 30. The communication controller 30 supplies this control information as a transmission data S10 to the DQPSK modulation circuit 31 and thus, the modulation processing will be applied via the DQPSK modulation circuit 31 and the inverse fast Fourier transform circuit 33 and transmitted to the wireless communication unit 14A, 14B of each communication terminal device 11A, 11B from the antenna 26 as a transmission signal S19.

(1-3) Wireless Communication Unit of Communication Terminal Device

[0052] Then, in this chapter the wireless communication units 14A and 14B provided respectively in the communication terminal devices 11A and 11B will be explained referring to Fig. 9. In this connection, since basically the wireless communication units 14A and 14B have the same construction, only the wireless communication unit 14A will be described in the following. As shown in Fig. 9, in the wireless communication unit 14A, the transmission data S30 is entered via the communication controller 51. The transmission data sent out from the communication controller 51 is supplied into the DQPSK modulation circuit 52. The DQPSK modulation circuit 52 applies the DQPSK modulation to the transmission data S30 and outputs the resulting transmission signal S31 to the serial-parallel conversion circuit 53.

[0053] The serial-parallel conversion circuit 53 converts the transmission signal S31 of serial data stream to the transmission signal S32 of parallel data stream and outputs this to the inverse fast Fourier transform circuit 54. The inverse fast Fourier transform circuit 54, applying the inverse Fourier transform processing to the transmission signal S32, maps the transmission signal S32 to the data of frequency region and outputs the resultant transmission signal S33 to a parallel-serial conversion circuit 55. The parallel-serial conversion circuit 55 converts a transmission signal S33 supplied in parallel data stream to the serial data stream and supplies the resultant transmission signal S34 to the frequency conversion circuit 56. The serial-parallel conversion circuit 53, the inverse fast Fourier transform circuit 54 and the parallel-serial conversion circuit 55 convert the transmission signal S31 to multi-carrier signal using the OFDM scheme just as is the case with the wireless communication unit 16.

[0054] In the frequency conversion circuit 56, a Local oscillation signal S35 is supplied from the PLL synthesizer 57, and the frequency conversion circuit 56, multiplying the transmission signal S34 by the local oscillation signal S35, forms a transmission signal S36, frequency converted to the prescribed frequency, and outputs this to a power amplifier 58.

[0055] The power amplifier 58 amplifies the transmission signal S36 to the prescribed power and supplies the resulting transmission signal S37 to the input terminal 21AA of the switch comprising the antenna switching unit 21A. This switch 21A shifts the connection to the antenna 20A when receiving data and when transmitting data. At the time when transmitting data, the switch 21A is shifted to the input terminal 21AA side, while at the time of data reception, it is shifted to the terminal 21AB side. Thus, the transmission signal S37 will be supplied to the antenna 20A via this switch 21A and transmitted from this antenna 20A.

[0056] On the other hand, the receive signal S38 received by the antenna 20A when receiving the data is supplied to the receiving amplifier 59 via the switch 21A and after being amplified, it is supplied to a frequency conversion circuit 60.

[0057] In the frequency conversion circuit 60, a local oscillation signal S39 from the PLL synthesizer 57 is supplied, and the frequency conversion circuit 60 forms a receive signal S40 of medium frequency by multiplying this local oscillation signal S39 by the receive signal S38 and outputs this to the serial-parallel conversion circuit 61 and the correlation detection circuit 62.

5 [0058] The serial-parallel conversion circuit 61 converts the receive signal S40 to parallel signal and outputs the resulting receive signal S41 to the fast Fourier transform circuit 63. The fast Fourier transform circuit 63 applies the Fourier transform processing to the receive signal S41 and outputs the resulting receive signal S42 to the parallel-serial conversion circuit 64. The parallel-serial conversion circuit 64 converts the receive signal S42 to receive signal S43 of serial data sequence and outputs this to the DQPSK demodulation circuit 65. At this point, the serial-parallel conversion circuit 61, the fast Fourier transform circuit 63 and the parallel-serial conversion circuit 64 conduct the OFDM scheme decoding to the receive signal S40 in the same manner as the wireless communication unit 16 described above.

10 [0059] The DQPSK demodulation circuit 65, applying the DQPSK demodulation processing to the receive signal S43, restores the receive data S44 and outputs this to the communication controller 51. The communication controller 51 sends this receive data S44 out to the data terminal device 13A.

15 [0060] Here, in this wireless communication unit 14A, the whole function will be controlled by the controller 66. The data transmission and data reception will be conducted by the command from the controller 66 and based on this control the communication controller 51 conducts the data delivery between transmission data S30 or the receive data S44 and the data terminal device 13A.

20 [0061] In this wireless LAN system 10, data will be transmitted by the TDMA scheme making one frame as a unit, and the M-sequence code for obtaining synchronization will be sent from the wireless communication unit 16 of the communication control terminal device 12 to one symbol of the head of one frame. In order to realize such control, this wireless communication unit 14A is equipped with a correlation detection circuit 62 and a timer 67. The M-sequence code to be transmitted from the wireless communication unit 16 of the communication control terminal device 12 will be received by the antenna 20A at the timing of the frame top and transmitted to the correlation detection circuit 62. The correlation detection circuit 62 detects the correlation between the code received and the pre-set code. And if it is judged that the correlation is very strong, a detection output S45 showing that the code having the correlation i.e., the M-sequence code has been received will be transmitted to the timer 67. The timer 67 conducts the time management making the timing at which this detection output S45 is given as the reference time.

25 [0062] In the case where there exist the data that the user wants to transmit, a transmission request will be sent from the communication controller 51 according to the command of the controller 66. This transmission request is DQPSK modulated at the DQPSK modulation circuit 52 and OFDM converted at the inverse fast Fourier transform circuit 54 and transmitted from the antenna 20A to the communication control terminal device 12. This transmission request is received at the communication control terminal device 12 and the control information containing the transmission allocation time will be sent back from the communication control terminal device 12.

30 [0063] This control information will be received by the antenna 20A and OFDM demodulated at the fast Fourier transform circuit 63, and then will be DQPSK demodulated at the DQPSK demodulation circuit 65 and supplied to the communication controller 51. Then, the received data showing control information demodulated is supplied from the communication controller 51 to the controller 66.

35 [0064] This control information contains information regarding transmission times. These times are set with reference to the time of the timer 67. The timer 67, making the timing at which the detection output S45 was given from the correlation detection circuit 62 (i.e., the timing at which the M-sequence code was transmitted from the communication control terminal device 12) to be the reference time, controls the transmission time relative to this reference time and time information contained in the control information.

40 [0065] When the timer 67 judges that the transmission start time has come, the controller 66 outputs a transmission command of the transmission data to the communication controller 51. Receiving this command, the communication controller 51 starts the sendout of the transmission data S30. The transmission data S30 sent out is DQPSK modulated at the DQPSK modulation circuit 52 and conducted the OFDM conversion processing by the inverse fast Fourier transform circuit 54 and transmitted via the antenna 20A. Moreover, when the timer 67 judges that the reception time has come, the controller 66 sends out a reception start command to the fast Fourier transform circuit 63. Thus, the receive signal S38 received by the antenna 20A will be demodulated via the fast Fourier transform circuit 63.

45 [0066] With this arrangement, in this wireless LAN system 10, data are transmitted using multi-carrier according to the OFDM scheme. As described earlier, the OFDM wave is strong against jitter and the demodulation is possible even when few samples are slipped out. However, it cannot be demodulated if it further slips out and covers over 2 symbols. Accordingly, the timing should be set at a certain degree. In this wireless LAN system 10, making 147455 symbols (4 [ms]) to be one frame, for example, data will be transmitted in this frame by the TDMA scheme, and the M-sequence code will be provided in one symbol of the head of each frame, and using this M-sequence code, demodulation timing

will be set.

[0067] If the received clock has 6.8 [ppm] delay with respect to the OFDM wave received, the time difference of 27.2 [ns] is accumulated between 1 frame of 4 [ms]. This is equivalent to 36.864 [MHz] sampling rate. Accordingly, if the clock having accuracy of approximately 6.8 [ppm] would be prepared, demodulation is possible without fail.

[0068] In this connection, as the symbol for synchronization, in addition to the M-sequence codes, preparing 2 kinds of M-sequence codes having the same frequency and adding these, the resultant code sequences, Gold code, Barker code or block code can be used.

(1-4) Construction of Correlation Detection Circuit

[0069] Next, in this chapter the correlation detection circuit 62 described above will be explained with reference to Fig. 10. As shown in Fig. 10, the correlation detection circuit 62 is roughly comprised of a limiter 70, a matched filter 71 and a comparator 72. At first, the receive signal S40 sent out from the frequency conversion circuit 60 is entered into the limiter 70 via the input terminal IN. The limiter 70 is a circuit that restricts the amplitude of the receive signal S40 to the fixed level according to plus/minus of the signal amplitude of the receive signal S10.

[0070] If assuming that the function of amplitude of the receive signal S40 is $r(t)$, the limiter 70 regulates the amplitude of the receive signal S40 to the fixed level so that the amplitude value becomes "+1" or "-1" corresponding to plus/minus of the amplitude of the receive signal S40 and outputs the receive signal S50 whose amplitude is fixed to the prescribed level, as shown in the following equation:

$$r(t) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } r(t) > 0 \\ -1, & \text{if } r(t) \leq 0 \end{cases} \quad \dots (1)$$

[0071] The matched filter 71 has nearly the same construction as that shown in Fig. 2, and this matched filter 71, multiplying the code sequence of receive signal S50 to be entered and the code sequence to be detected by the corresponding coefficient respectively and by adding the multiplication results, obtains a correlation value signal S51 and outputs this to the following comparator 72. The correlation value calculating processing in this matched filter 71 can be expressed using the amplitude function of the receive signal S50 and code sequence to be detected $P(t)$ as follows:

$$\text{cor}(t) = \int_0^{T_b} r(t) P * (t - \tau) d\tau \quad \dots (2)$$

Where

$r(t)$: Amplitude function of receive signal S50
 $P(t)$: Code sequence to be detected
 $\text{cor}(t)$: Correlation value signal S51 to be sent out

[0072] The matched filter 71 outputs the correlation value $\text{cor}(t)$ as shown in this equation (2) as the correlation value signal S51.

[0073] The comparator 72 compares the signal level of this correlation value signal S51 with the signal level of threshold signal TH to be supplied from outside. And if the resultant shows that the signal level of correlation value signal S51 exceeds the signal level of threshold signal TH, the comparator 72 transmits a detection output S45 to show that the code sequence to be detected (i.e., M-sequence code) has been received to the timer 67 via the output terminal OUT.

[0074] In this connection, since the correlation value signal S51 to be sent out from the matched filter 71 is expressed as shown in equation (2), this is proportional to the amplitude of receive signal to be entered. Accordingly, in general, the signal level of the output of this matched filter 71 becomes lower than the output of the conventional matched filter. Thus, the signal level of the threshold signal TH to be entered into the comparator 72 is set to the prescribed value lower than the conventional value.

[0075] Here, in the case where the receive signal S40 is the M-sequence code, it has correlation since the M-se-

quence code is the code sequence to be detected, and even if its amplitude is regulated to the fixed level by the limiter 70, and thus, the correlation value signal S51 having large signal level will be transmitted from the matched filter 71. Accordingly, since the signal level of the correlation value signal S51 is large, the detection output S45 showing that the signal level of correlation value signal S51 exceeds the threshold signal TH and the M-sequence code is detected in the comparator 72 will be transmitted.

[0076] On the other hand, in the case where the receive signal having large signal level, but this is not the M-sequence code in question, the amplitude of the receive signal S40 will be fixed to "+1" or "-1" and thus fixed signal received will be entered into the matched filter 71. Since the signal which is not the M-sequence code has no correlation to the coefficient set in the multiplier of the matched filter 71, the correlation value signal S51 having small level will be transmitted from the matched filter 71 even if coefficients were multiplied and the multiplication results were added. Accordingly, in the comparator 72, the signal level of the correlation value signal S51 does not exceed the signal level of the threshold signal TH and the detection output S45 would never be sent out.

[0077] Thus, in this correlation detection circuit 70, since the amplitude of the receive signal S40 is set to the fixed value, only M-sequence codes can be detected correctly. In this connection, the reason that the signal level of the correlation value signal S51 becomes small when the signal which is not the M-sequence code is received can be easily known by explaining the reason that the signal level of the correlation value signal became large when the signal which was not the M-sequence code was received as follows.

[0078] Generally, the signal processing in the matched filter, if the signal to be entered is taken as $x(t)$ and the code sequence to be detected is taken as $P(t)$, as is clear from equation (2), can be expressed as follows:

$$\text{cor}(t) = \int_0^T x(t)P * (t - \tau)d\tau \quad \dots (3)$$

Where

$x(t)$ is input signal

$P(t)$ is code sequence to be detected

[0079] At this point, if the input signal $x(t)$ ' whose signal level is 10 times larger than this input signal $x(t)$ is entered, the correlation value signal to be sent out from the matched filter can be expressed as shown in the following equation:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{cor}(t) &= \int_0^T x(t)'P * (t - \tau)d\tau \\ &= \int_0^T 10x(t)P * (t - \tau)d\tau \\ &= 10 \int_0^T x(t)P * (t - \tau)d\tau \end{aligned} \quad \dots (4)$$

[0080] As shown above, the signal level of the correlation value signal becomes ten times larger. Accordingly, when the input signal having no correlation with the code sequence to be detected by the matched filter enters, if that input signal is extremely large, the correlation value signal with large signal level will be sent out even if they have no correlation.

[0081] To obviate such problems in this correlation detection circuit 62, the signal level of the receive signal S40 to be entered is set to the fixed constant level by the limiter 70 and even when the receive signal having large signal level but having no correlation enters, the misjudgment determining this as the code sequence to be detected can be prevented in advance.

[0082] At this point, signal waveforms of each unit at the time when correlations are detected by the correlation detection circuit 62 are shown in Figs. 11A to 11E. Figs. 11A and 11B show signal levels (shown by Input in Fig.) of in-phase component (i.e., I component) and quadrature component (i.e., Q component) of the receive signal S40, and signal levels (shown by Output in Fig.) of the receive signal S50, that is the output of the limiter 70. Fig. 11C shows signal contents of the receive signal S40, and Fig. 11D shows the signal level of the correlation value signal S51, that is the output of the matched filter 71, and Fig. 11E shows the output of the matched filter of the conventional correlation detection circuit. As it is clear from the comparison between Fig. 11D and Fig. 11E, in the conventional case, if the signal level of the receive signal S40 is large, the signal level of the correlation value signal becomes large even it is not M-sequence code (expressed by "M-array" in Fig.), and as a result, the misjudgment was made as to the M-

sequence code was received. However, in the case of correlation detection circuit 62 according to the present invention, since the amplitude of the receive signal S40 is set to the constant level, the correlation value signal S51 whose signal level increases only by the M-sequence code to be detected can be obtained and thus, the reception of M-sequence code can be detected correctly.

5 [0083] The another correlation detection circuit 62 shown in Fig. 10 can be configured as shown in Fig. 12. Referring to Fig. 12, the received signal is supplied to an input terminal 181. The received signal is supplied to a matched filter 182 and also to an average amplitude detection circuit 183. Outputs of the matched filter 182 and average amplitude detection circuit 183 are supplied to a divider circuit 184, and in the divider circuit 184 an output level Sa of matched filter 182 is divided by an output level Sb of average amplitude detection circuit 183. The output of divider circuit 184 is supplied to a comparator circuit 185 to which a predetermined threshold value TH is supplied. The output of comparator circuit 185 is output from an output terminal 186 as a correlation value detecting signal.

10 [0084] When the M sequence is being received, the output level Sa of matched filter 182 increases. This makes the output of divider circuit 184 greater than the predetermined threshold value TH, i.e. $Sa/Sb > TH$ is satisfied and the correlation detecting signal appears from the comparator circuit 185. This correlation detecting signal is output from the output terminal 186.

15 [0085] When the input signal has a large amplitude, the output level Sa of matched filter 182 becomes also large. However, when the amplitude of input signal is large, not only the output level Sa of matched filter 182 but also the output level Sb of average amplitude detection circuit 183 go large. This means that the divided value (Sa/Sb) of the output level Sa of matched filter 182 by the output level Sb of average amplitude detection circuit 183 makes almost no change. Then, the output of divider circuit 184 remains smaller than the predetermined threshold value TH, i.e. $Sa/Sb < TH$ is satisfied. Thus, no correlation detecting signal appears from the comparator circuit 185.

20 [0086] In this way when the output of matched filter 182 is normalized by the amplitude level output by the average amplitude detection circuit 183, the detected level will not increase even if the input signal level increases, thereby allowing it to be correctly detected that the M sequence has been received.

25 [0087] Figs. 13A to 13C show a result of measuring a received signal by such a correlation detection circuit. Fig. 13A shows an output of the matched filter 182, Fig. 13B shows an output of the average amplitude detection circuit 183, and Fig. 13C shows an output of the divider circuit 184.

30 [0088] Because the signals from the plurality of wireless communication terminals 11A, 11B,... and the wireless communication control terminal 12 are time division multiplexed within one frame, the intensity of received signal within one frame will vary. Thus, as shown in Fig. 13A, the output of matched filter 182 varies depending on the signal level of received signal.

35 [0089] When an average amplitude of this received signal is detected by the average amplitude detection circuit 183, such a signal as shown in Fig. 13B is obtained. When the output of matched filter 182 shown in Fig. 13A is divided by the output of average amplitude detection circuit 183 shown in Fig. 13B, such a result as shown in Fig. 13C is obtained.

[0090] As shown in Fig. 13C, dividing the output of matched filter 182 by the output of average amplitude detection circuit 183 makes the input signal level to be normalized, and so an M sequence receiving signal can be detected without fail.

40 [0091] In the above example, the output of matched filter 182 is divided by the output of average amplitude detection circuit 183. This is expressed by the following equation.

$$45 \quad \frac{\int_0^{Ts} r(t)P * (1 - \tau)dt}{\sqrt{\int_0^{Ts} |r(t)|^2 dt}} \quad \dots\dots(5)$$

50 Where

$r(t)$ is the received signal.
 $P(t)$ is the code sequence.

55 [0092] Expressing the above equation (5) in the complex number, where

$$r(t) = r_{re}(t) + jr_{im}(t)$$

* : conjugate

$$\sqrt{\frac{\left\{ \int_0^T r_{re}(t) P * (t - \tau) dt \right\}^2 + \left\{ \int_0^T r_{im}(t) P * (t - \tau) dt \right\}^2}{\int_0^T (r_{re} \cdot r_{re} + r_{im} \cdot r_{im}) dt}} \dots (6)$$

is obtained.

[0093] Unfortunately, in order to implement the above equation, a circuit capable of finding the square root is required so that the number of steps and an amount of hardware are caused to increase. Therefore, it is conceived to make the above equation (5) into the following equation without the square root.

$$\frac{\left\{ \int_0^T r_{re}(t) P * (t - \tau) dt \right\}^2 + \left\{ \int_0^T r_{im}(t) P * (t - \tau) dt \right\}^2}{\int_0^T [\{r_{re}(t)\}^2 + \{r_{im}(t)\}^2] dt} \dots (7)$$

[0094] In addition, if this process is to be preformed in the digital form of signals, the following equation will be obtained.

$$\frac{\left\{ \sum_{i=1}^N r_{re}(i) P * (i - j) \right\}^2 + \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^N r_{im}(i) P * (i - j) \right\}^2}{\sum [\{r_{re}(i)\}^2 + \{r_{im}(i)\}^2]} \dots (8)$$

[0095] The above equation (8) requires a process for finding a square, but the process for finding the square causes the number of steps and an amount of hardware to increase and hence is time-consuming. Thus, it is conceivable to process using absolute values according to the following equation instead of the square process. In this way, the number of steps and hardware can be reduced, so that a fast processing can be performed.

$$\frac{|\sum r_{re}(i) P * (i - j)| + |\sum r_{im}(i) P * (i - j)|}{\sum \{ |r_{re}(i)| + |r_{im}(i)| \}} \quad (9)$$

(1-5) Communications Protocol

[0096] Then next, the communications protocol of the wireless LAN system 10 will be described in the following paragraphs. First, the frame construction at the time of data communication according to this wireless LAN system 10 is shown in Fig. 14. As shown in Fig. 14, one frame is divided into the control data transmission time and the information data transmission time. In the control data transmission time, asynchronous data communication will be conducted, while in the information data transmission time, isochronous data communication will be conducted. When the symbol for synchronization is transmitted from the communication control terminal device 12, individual communication terminal device 11A, 11B sends the transmission request to the communication control terminal device 12 based on the receipt of this symbol for synchronization (i.e., M-sequence code). The communication control terminal device 12, responding to this transmission request, sends the control information including the transmission allocation time to individual com-

communication terminal device 11A, 11B. The transmission of the control information is carried out according to the asynchronous communication in the control data transmission time. In the case where the data communication is carried out between the communication terminal devices 11A and 11B, the communication terminal devices 11A and 11B perform the data communication according to this transmission allocation time. The data communications between the communication terminal devices 11A and 11B will be carried out isochronously using the information data transmission time.

[0097] The data communication to be carried out in the information data transmission time can be conducted in the asynchronous manner and also asynchronous communications and isochronous communications can be coexisted.

[0098] At this point, the communication sequence in the case of conducting the data communication between the communication terminal device 11A and the communication terminal device 11B will be shown in Fig. 15, and the data contents of the TDMA communication to be conducted in one frame at that time will be shown in Fig. 16.

[0099] As shown in Fig. 15, in one symbol at the head of one frame, M-sequence code is transmitted toward each communication terminal device 11A, 11B from the communication control terminal device 12. This M-sequence code is received at the wireless communication units 14A and 14B of each communication terminal device 11A and 11B respectively, and timer 67 to conduct the time management will be set based on the timing at which this M-sequence code is received.

[0100] Then, at the time point t_1 , the communication control terminal device 12 calls out the communication terminal devices 11A and 11B by the polling processing. The communication terminal device 11A, upon receiving this, at the time point t_2 , sends an acknowledge signal, that is an answer signal. Moreover, the communication terminal device 11B replies sending an acknowledge signal at the time point t_3 , the time point delayed from the time point t_2 . At this point, if the transmission is requested, this acknowledge signal includes the transmission request. At this point, supposing that the communication terminal device 11A sends a transmission request showing the transfer of data to the communication terminal device 11B, and the communication terminal device 11B sends a transmission request showing the transfer of data to the communication terminal device 11B.

[0101] The communication control terminal device 12 determines the transmission allocation time based on these transmission requests, and at the time point t_4 , control information is transmitted to the communication terminal devices 11A and 11B. Here, supposing that the transmission start time of the communication terminal device 11A is decided to be the time point t_5 and the transmission start time of the communication terminal device 11B is determined to be the time point t_6 .

[0102] The communication terminal device 11A, upon receiving the control information including the transmission allocation time, starts data transmission to the communication terminal device 11B at the time point t_5 . Similarly, the communication terminal device 11B, receiving the control information, when the data transmission from the communication terminal device 11A is terminated, starts the data transmission to the communication terminal device 11A at the following time point t_6 . In this connection, the timing judgment of the time point t_5 and t_6 in the communication terminal devices 11A and 11B are conducted by the timer 67 which operates making the timing at which the M-sequence code is received as the reference time.

[0103] When the above operations have been conducted, data as shown in Fig. 16 will be sent in one frame. More specifically, as shown in Fig. 16, the M-sequence code is sent to the head of one frame, each communication terminal device 11A, 11B is called out at the time point t_1 , and at the time points t_2 and t_3 , acknowledge signals to the callouts are returned, the control information including the transmission allocation time is sent at the time point t_4 , and data transmission from the communication terminal device 11A to the communication terminal device 11B is started from the time point t_5 , and the data transmission from the communication terminal device 11B to the communication terminal device 11A is started from the time point t_6 .

[0104] Accordingly, since the OFDM scheme is used in this wireless LAN system, it is possible to realize high speed data rate. Data will be transmitted according to the TDMA making one frame as a unit, the M-sequence code will be sent at the head of one frame and the transmission/reception timing will be set with reference to this M-sequence code.

[0105] The transmission/reception time of each communication terminal device 11A, 11B will be assigned by the control information from the communication control terminal device 12. And since the timer 67 of each communication terminal device 11A, 11B is set relative to the M-sequence code at the top of one frame, the timers 67 of individual communication terminal device 11A and 11B are set equally. Accordingly, when receiving, data can be reproduced demodulating only required symbols in the frame. Moreover, data can be multiplexed within the same frame from multiple communication terminal devices 11A, 11B, and data can be demodulated at the same demodulation timing even when jitter exists.

[0106] In this connection, even if a small difference exists between the timer of the transmitting end and the timer of the receiving end, data can be demodulated without fail because of the characteristic of OFDM. Accordingly, it is unnecessary to obtain synchronization prior to receiving signal per burst and it is not necessary to provide bit for synchronization per each burst. Accordingly, bits in the frame can be effectively utilized.

(1-6) Operation and Effects

[0107] According to the foregoing construction, in this wireless LAN system 10, the M-sequence code is transmitted from the communication control terminal device 12 at the head of frame, and this M-sequence code is received at the communication terminal devices 11A and 11B, and the time management will be conducted relative to the timing at which this M-sequence code is received. The judgment whether this M-sequence code has been received or not will be conducted by the correlation detection circuit 62.

[0108] In the correlation detection circuit 62, firstly, the limiter 70 regulates the amplitude of the receive signal S40 to the constant level, and enters the resultant receive signal S50 into the matched filter 71. In the matched filter 71, the code sequence received will be multiplied by the coefficient corresponding to the M-sequence code to be detected and adding up the multiplication results, the correlation value signal S51 will be sent out. Thus, by comparing the signal level of this correlation value signal S51 with the threshold TH in the comparator 72, the M-sequence code is received or not will be determined. In this case, since the amplitude of the receive signal S40 is fixed either to "+1" or "-1", the correlation value signal S51 whose signal level increases only when the M-sequence code is received can be obtained, and thus, whether the M-sequence code has been received or not can be certainly judged based on this correlation value signal S51.

[0109] Furthermore, in this case, if there exists a receive signal having large signal level immediately before receiving the M-sequence code and the operation to decrease the gain to the M-sequence code is generated by the AGC circuit, since the amplitude is set to the fixed level by the limiter 70, the gain decrease by the AGC circuit has no effects at all.

[0110] In stead of regulating the amplitude of the receive signal S40 to the fixed level, the method to calculate the average amplitude of the receive signal S40 and to normalize the correlation value signal to be transmitted from the matched filter 71 using this average amplitude can be considered. However, in the case of this method, when the receive signal having extremely large signal level is received, there is a possibility of overflow occurrence in the average amplitude calculation circuit and the divider to perform the normalization processing and the M-sequence code cannot be detected. Moreover, according to this method, since it is necessary to provide the average amplitude calculation circuit and the divider, the circuit construction becomes very complicated and as a result, there is a fear that the correlation detection circuit cannot be mini-sized.

[0111] On the other hand, the correlation detection circuit 62 according to the present invention, since the amplitude of the receive signal S40 is fixed to "+1" or "-1" by the limiter 70, the circuit would not cause overflow and the M-sequence code can be certainly detected. Moreover, since it is not necessary to provide the average amplitude calculation circuit and the divider circuit formed of integrators, the correlation detection circuit can be constructed with a simple construction.

[0112] According to the foregoing construction, since the amplitude of the receive signal S40 is regulated to the fixed level, and inputting that amplitude fixed receive signal S50 to the matched filter 71, the correlation value signal S51 is detected and comparing this correlation value signal S51 with the threshold TH, whether the code sequence to be detected has been received or not will be determined, the detection error according to the signal level of the receive signal S40 can be prevented in advance, and the code sequence to be detected can be detected certainly with a simple construction.

(2) Other Embodiments

[0113] The embodiment described above has dealt with the case of detecting the correlation value signal S51 from the receive signal S40. However, the present invention is not only limited to this but also in-phase components (i.e., I components) and quadrature components (i.e., Q components) may be extracted from the receive signal S40 and correlation value signal may be detected per each component. Examples of this case will be described referring to Figs. 15 and 16. As shown in Fig. 17, in the correlation detection circuit 80, receive signal S40 is entered firstly into the first and the second multipliers 81 and 82. Local oscillation signal S60 is entered in this multiplier 81, and in the multiplier 82, a local oscillation signal S61, in which the phase of the local oscillation signal S60 is delayed for $\pi/2$ by a phase shifter 83. The multiplier 81, multiplying the receive signal S40 to be entered by the local oscillation signal S60, extracts in-phase component S_I of the base-band signal. Moreover, the multiplier 82 extracts quadrature component S_Q of the base-band signal by multiplying the receive signal S40 to be entered by the local oscillation signal S61.

[0114] These in-phase component S_I and quadrature component S_Q extracted, after unnecessary components are eliminated, will be entered into limiters 85 and 86 via low-pass filters 83 and 84 respectively. The limiters 85 and 86 have the same construction as the limiter 70 shown in Fig. 10, and these limiters regulate amplitudes of the in-phase component S_I and quadrature component S_Q to be entered to the fixed level "+1" or "-1" corresponding to the plus or minus of the amplitudes, and output the resultant in-phase component S62 and quadrature component S63 to the matched filter 87. The matched filter 87 detects correlation value signals S64 and S65 per each component and transmits these to the multipliers 88 and 89 respectively.

[0115] With this arrangement, after these correlation value signals S64 and S65 are being squared by the multipliers 88 and 89, a correlation value signal S66 can be obtained adding in-phase components and quadrature components by the adder 90. And this correlation value signal S66 is entered into the comparator 72 and by comparing this with the threshold TH, M-sequence code to be detected has been received or not can be judged.

5 [0116] Accordingly, if in-phase components and quadrature components are extracted from the receive signal 40 by using signal extracting means (81 - 83), correlation value signals S64 and S65 are detected per each component and the correlation value signal S66 would be detected by adding these, the code sequence to be detected can be correctly detected from the receive signal in which phase modulation such as QPSK modulation is conducted.

10 [0117] In this case the correlation value signal S66 to be detected can be expressed as shown in the following equation:

$$15 \quad \text{cor}(t) = \left| \sum_i r_{(m)}(i)P^* (i - j) \right|^2 + \left| \sum_i r_{(n)}(i)P^* (i - j) \right|^2 \quad \dots (10)$$

20 [0118] Furthermore, in Fig. 18, in which the corresponding parts of Fig. 17 are given the same reference numerals, absolute value circuits 101 and 102 are provided in the correlation detection circuit 100 in stead of multipliers 88 and 89, and the absolute values of correlation value signals S64 and S65 detected per each component are obtained and adding up these, in-phase components and quadrature components combined correlation value signal S70 may be detected. With this arrangement, since the circuit construction is simpler in the case of obtaining the absolute value rather than obtaining the value squared, a correlation detection circuit 100 capable of detecting the code sequence to be detected correctly and with the simpler construction.

25 [0119] The correlation value signal S70 to be detected in this case can be expressed as follows:

$$30 \quad \text{cor}(t) = \left| \sum_i r_{(m)}(i)P^* (i - j) \right| + \left| \sum_i r_{(n)}(i)P^* (i - j) \right| \quad \dots (11)$$

35 [0120] Moreover, the embodiment described above has dealt with the case of setting the amplitude of the receive signal S40 to the fixed level "+1" or "-1". However, the present invention is not only limited to this but also the amplitude may be set to the fixed level "+0.5" or "-0.5". Anyway, if the signal level of the receive signal S40 can be set to the fixed level within the range that can be set to the uniform level, the other value may be used.

40 [0121] Furthermore, the embodiment described above has dealt with the case of transmitting the M-sequence code corresponding to one symbol of OFDM to the head of one frame. However, the present invention is not only limited to this but also as the symbol for synchronization, other than one symbol may do. Anyway, as the length of this symbol for synchronization, variable length may be acceptable. For example, as shown in Fig. 19, making the length of M-sequence code to 31-bit, shorter than 1 symbol, and a space may be provided at the head of one frame, or as the length of M-sequence code, the length longer than one symbol may be used. Moreover, the M-sequence code for frame synchronization is not necessarily placed at the head of the frame but the M-sequence code may be placed at various places in the frame.

45 [0122] Furthermore, as shown in Fig. 20, information may be placed on the phase difference between subcarriers. More specifically, in the DQPSK modulation, the direction of frequency is changed. If the sampling timing delays when receiving the signal, the phase of QPSK wave of each subcarrier after being Fourier transformed is reversed at the time when OFDM demodulating. As a method to obtain the correct QPSK phase, the method, allocating the known phase signal to the part of OFDM subcarrier as the pilot signal and to form the reference phase may be applied. An example shown in Fig. 20, information is placed in the phase difference between subcarriers relative to the first carrier. Thus, even if the phase reverses, the amount of rotation is small and little error exists. Since in the example shown by Fig. 20, the first carrier is assigned as the carrier to give the reference phase, the other carrier may be assigned as the reference.

55 [0123] Furthermore, the embodiment described above has dealt with the case of DQPSK modulating the data and transmitting the data via multicarriers by the OFDM. However, the present invention is not only limited to this but also the multilevel modulation QAM (quadrature amplitude modulation) may be used. As the QAM, such as 16-QAM,

21-QAM, 128-QAM and 256-QAM can be used. Moreover, Trellis-coded modulation can be also used as the coding.

[0124] Moreover, the embodiment described above has dealt with the case of providing the M-sequence generation circuit 36 in the wireless communication unit 16 of the communication control terminal device 12 and the correlation detection circuit 62 in the wireless communication units 14A and 14B of the communication terminal devices 11A and 11B. However, the present invention is not only limited to this but also the M-sequence generation circuit and correlation detection circuit are provided in one terminal device and it may be constructed so that the M-sequence generation circuit and the correlation detection circuit can be shifted and used depending upon whether these would be used as the communication control terminal device or the communication terminal device.

[0125] According to the present invention as described above, since the input signal is entered to the matched filter means after the amplitude of this input signal is regulated to the fixed value, the accidental output of the correlation value having large signal level by the matched filter means even though it is not the code sequence to be detected, can be prevented and only the code sequence to be detected can be correctly detected. And thereby, a correlation detection device capable of detecting the prescribed code sequence from the input signal correctly and with a simple construction can be realized.

[0126] While there has been described in connection with the preferred embodiments of the invention, it will be obvious to those skilled in the art that various changes and modifications may be aimed, therefore, to cover in the appended claims all such changes and modifications as fall within the true spirit and scope of the invention.

20 Claims

1. A correlation detection device for detecting code sequence to be detected from an input signal using correlation, comprising:

limiter means for regulating the amplitude of said input signal to the prescribed constant value according to plus/minus of said input signal;
matched filter means for outputting a correlation value signal upon detecting the correlation between an output signal supplied from said limiter means and said code sequence to be detected; and
comparison means for judging whether said input signal is the code sequence to be detected or not by comparing the signal level of said correlation value signal with the prescribed threshold.

2. The correlation detection device according to claim 1, including:

signal extracting means for extracting in-phase components and quadrature components from said input signal;
the first limiter means for regulating the amplitude of said in-phase components to the prescribed constant value;
the second limiter means for regulating the amplitude of said quadrature components to the prescribed constant value;
matched filter means for detecting the correlation between output signal to be transmitted from said first and second limiter means and the code sequence to be detected per component and outputting the first and the second correlation value signals;
the first multiplication means for squaring said first correlation value signal;
the second multiplication means for squaring said second correlation value signal;
adding means for outputting the third correlation value signal by adding output signals of said first and second multiplication means; and
comparison means for judging whether said input signal is the code sequence to be detected or not by comparing the signal level of said third correlation value signal with the prescribed threshold.

3. The correlation detection device according to claim 1, including:

signal extracting means for extracting in-phase components and quadrature components from said input signal;
the first limiter means for regulating the amplitude of said in-phase components to the prescribed constant value;
the second limiter means for regulating the amplitude of said quadrature components to the prescribed constant value;
matched filter means for detecting the correlation between the output signal to be sent out from said first and

- second limiter means and said code sequence to be detected per component and outputting the first and second correlation value signals;
the first absolute value means for calculating the absolute value of said first correlation value signal;
the second absolute value means for calculating the absolute value of said second correlation value signal;
5 adding means for outputting the third correlation value signal by adding output signals of said first and second absolute value means; and
comparison means for judging whether said input signal is the code sequence to be detected or not by comparing the signal level of said third correlation value signal with the prescribed threshold.
- 10 4. A method for correlation detection for detecting the code sequence to be detected from an input signal using correlation, wherein:
the amplitude of said input signal is regulated to the prescribed constant value according to plus/minus of said input signal;
15 the correlation value between the input signal, of which the amplitude is fixed to the prescribed value and the code sequence to be detected is detected; and
whether said input signal is the code sequence to be detected or not is judged by comparing the signal level of said correlation value with the prescribed threshold.
- 20 5. The method for correlation detection according to claim 4, wherein;
in-phase components and quadrature components are extracted from said input signal, and correlation values calculated per each signal component are combined and said combined result and said threshold are compared.
- 25 6. The method for correlation detection according to claim 5, wherein;
in the case of combining correlation values calculated per signal component, each correlation value is squared and combined.
- 30 7. The method for correlation detection according to claim 5, wherein;
in the case of combining the correlation value calculated per said signal component, the absolute value of each correlation value is obtained and combined.
- 35 8. A communication terminal device for generating transmission symbol sequence by performing a prescribed modulation processing based on data to be transmitted, and transmitting and receiving a transmission signal generated by performing a prescribed transmission processing on the transmission symbol sequence, said communication terminal device comprising:
receiving means for receiving said transmission signal as a receive signal;
demodulating means for performing a prescribed demodulation processing on said receive signal;
40 correlation detecting means, including:
limiter means for regulating the amplitude of input signal to a prescribed constant value according to plus/minus of said input signal to which said modulation processing by said modulating means;
matched filter means for outputting a correlation value signal upon detecting the correlation between an
45 output signal supplied from said limiter means and code sequence to be detected; and
comparison means for judging whether said input signal is the code sequence to be detected or not by comparing the signal level of said correlation value signal with the prescribed threshold; and
control means for controlling said modulation processing and said demodulation processing with a timing when
50 said correlation detecting means judges said input signal is code sequence to be detected as a basis.
9. The communication terminal device according to claim 8, wherein:
said correlation detecting means, including:
55 signal extracting means for extracting in-phase components and quadrature components from said input signal;
the first limiter means for regulating the amplitude of said in-phase components to the prescribed constant value;

the second limiter means for regulating the amplitude of said quadrature components to the prescribed constant value;
 matched filter means for detecting the correlation between output signal to be transmitted from said first and second limiter means and the code sequence to be detected per component and outputting the first and the second correlation value signals;
 the first multiplication means for squaring said first correlation value signal;
 the second multiplication means for squaring said second correlation value signal;
 adding means for outputting the third correlation value signal by adding output signals of said first and second multiplication means; and
 comparison means for judging whether said input signal is the code sequence to be detected or not by comparing the signal level of said third correlation value signal with the prescribed threshold.

10. The communication terminal device according to claim 8, wherein:
 correlation detecting means, including:

signal extracting means for extracting in-phase components and quadrature components from said input signal;
 the first limiter means for regulating the amplitude of said in-phase components to the prescribed constant value;
 the second limiter means for regulating the amplitude of said quadrature components to the prescribed constant value;
 matched filter means for detecting the correlation between the output signal to be sent out from said first and second limiter means and said code sequence to be detected per component and outputting the first and second correlation value signals;
 the first absolute value means for calculating the absolute value of said first correlation value signal;
 the second absolute value means for calculating the absolute value of said second correlation value signal;
 adding means for outputting the third correlation value signal by adding output signals of said first and second absolute value means; and
 comparison means for judging whether said input signal is the code sequence to be detected or not by comparing the signal level of said third correlation value signal with the prescribed threshold.

11. A radio communication system comprising:

a plurality of radio communication terminals for data communication; and
 a radio communication control terminal for controlling radio communication; wherein
 said radio communication control terminal including:

transmission means and receiving means performing data transmission and receiving by the OFDM method; and
 synchronization-code generating means for generating a code sequence for synchronization acquisition; and each of said plurality of radio communication terminals including:
 transmission means and receiving means performing data transmission and receiving by the OFDM method;
 synchronization-code detecting means for detecting the code sequence for synchronization acquisition; and
 timer means set by the synchronization-code detecting means; wherein:
 data is modulated by the OFDM method and the data is multiplexed by the TDMA method with a frame structure having the specified number of symbols, between each of said plurality of radio communication terminals and said radio communication control terminal;
 said radio communication control terminal transmits the code for synchronization acquisition to said plurality of radio communication terminals in each frame; and
 each of said plurality of radio communication terminals receives the code for synchronization acquisition, sets the timer means according to the receiving timing of the code for synchronization acquisition, and sets the transmission timing and the receiving timing with the timer means being used as the reference.

12. The radio communication system according to claim 11, wherein
 the code sequence for synchronization acquisition corresponds to one symbol in the OFDM method.

13. The radio communication system according to claim 11, wherein
the code sequence for synchronization acquisition is a variable-length packet.
14. The radio communication system according to claim 11, wherein
the code sequence for synchronization acquisition is the M-sequence code.
15. The radio communication system according claim 11, wherein
the code sequence for synchronization acquisition is the Gold code.
16. The radio communication system according to claim 11, wherein
each sub-carrier in the OFDM method is used in the DQPSK method.
17. The radio communication system according to claim 11, wherein
each sub-carrier in the OFDM method is used in the QAM method.
18. A transmission device comprising:

an OFDM signal generating section; and
synchronization-code generating means for generating a code sequence for synchronization acquisition;
wherein
a signal in which data is modulated by the OFDM method and the data is multiplexed by the TDMA method
with a frame structure having the specified number of symbols, and the code for synchronization acquisition
are transmitted.
19. The transmission device according to claim 18, wherein
the code sequence for synchronization acquisition corresponds to one symbol in the OFDM method.
20. The transmission device according to claim 18, wherein
the code sequence for synchronization acquisition is a variable-length packet.
21. The transmission device according to claim 18, wherein
the code sequence for synchronization acquisition is the M-sequence code.
22. The transmission device according to claim 18, wherein
the code sequence for synchronization acquisition is the Gold code.
23. The transmission device according to claim 18, wherein
each sub-carrier in the OFDM method is used in the DQPSK method.
24. The transmission device according to claim 18, wherein
each sub-carrier in the OFDM method is used in the QAM method.
25. The receiving device comprising:

an OFDM signal receiving section; and
synchronization-code detecting means for detecting a code sequence for synchronization acquisition; wherein
the code for synchronization acquisition is received and the receiving timing is set according to the code.
26. The receiving device according to claim 25, wherein
the code sequence for synchronization acquisition corresponds to one symbol in the OFDM method.
27. The receiving device according to claim 25, wherein
the code sequence for synchronization acquisition is a variable-length packet.
28. The receiving device according to claim 25, wherein
the code sequence for synchronization acquisition is the M-sequence code.
29. The receiving device according to claim 25, wherein

the code sequence for synchronization acquisition is the Gold code.

30. The receiving device according to claim 25, wherein
each sub-carrier in the OFDM method is used in the QAM method.

5 31. The receiving device according to claim 25, wherein
each sub-carrier in the OFDM method is used in the QAM method.

32. The transmission method comprising the steps of:
10 generating an OFDM signal; and
generating a code sequence for synchronization acquisition, wherein
a signal in which data is modulated by the OFDM method and the data is multiplexed by the TDMA Method
with a frame structure having the specified number of symbols, and the code for synchronization acquisition
15 are transmitted.

33. The transmission method according to claim 32, wherein
the code sequence for synchronization acquisition corresponds to one symbol in the OFDM method.

20 34. The transmission method according to claim 32, wherein
the code sequence for synchronization acquisition is a variable-length packet.

35. The transmission method according to claim 32, wherein
the code sequence for synchronization acquisition is the M-sequence code.

25 36. The transmission method according to claim 32, wherein
the code sequence for synchronization acquisition is the Gold code.

30 37. The transmission method according to claim 32, wherein
each sub-carrier in the OFDM method is used in the DQPSK method.

38. The transmission method according to claim 32, wherein
each sub-carrier in the OFDM method is used in the QAM method.

35 39. A receiving method comprising the steps of:
receiving an OFDM signal; and
detecting a code sequence for synchronization acquisition; wherein
the code for synchronization acquisition is received and the receiving timing is set according to the code.

40 40. The receiving method according to claim 39, wherein
the code sequence for synchronization acquisition corresponds to one symbol in the OFDM method.

45 41. The receiving method according to claim 39, wherein
the code sequence for synchronization acquisition is a variable-length packet.

42. The receiving method according to claim 39, wherein
the code sequence for synchronization acquisition is the M-sequence code.

50 43. The receiving method according to claim 39, wherein
the code sequence for synchronization acquisition is the Gold code.

44. The receiving method according to claim 39, wherein
each sub-carrier in the OFDM method is used in the DQPSK method.

55 45. The receiving method according to claim 39, wherein
each sub-carrier in the OFDM method is used in the QAM method.

46. A correlation detection device for detecting a correlation between a predetermined code and a code of a received signal, comprising:

5 a code detecting means for detecting a predetermined code from said received signal;
 an average amplitude detecting means for detecting an average amplitude of said received signal;
 an normalizing means for normalizing an output of said code detecting means based on an output of said
 average amplitude detecting means; and
 a comparing means for comparing the output of said code detecting means normalized by said normalizing
 means with a threshold value to output a correlation detecting signal; wherein
 10 said received signal is expressed in a complex number, and said average amplitude detecting means finds
 the average amplitude on the basis of an absolute value of a real part and an absolute value of an imaginary
 part of said received signal expressed in the complex number.

15 47. A communication device for receiving a received signal containing a synchronizing signal and demodulates said
 received signal, comprising:

an input means with a received signal;
 a synchronizing signal detecting means for detecting a synchronizing signal contained in said received signal
 from said received signal; and
 20 a demodulating means for demodulating and outputting a desired portion of said received signal based on a
 detecting timing of said synchronizing signal; wherein
 said synchronizing signal detecting means comprising:

25 detecting means for detecting a predetermined signal from said received signal;
 average amplitude detecting means for detecting an average amplitude of said received signal;
 normalizing means for normalizing an output of said detecting means based on an output of said average
 amplitude detecting means; and
 comparing means for comparing the output of said detecting means normalizing by said normalizing
 means with a threshold value to thereby output a correlation detecting signal; wherein
 30 said received signal is expressed in a complex number, and said average amplitude detecting means
 finds the average amplitude based on an absolute value of a real part and an absolute value of an imaginary
 part of said received signal expressed in the complex number.

35 48. A communication device for receiving a received signal containing a synchronizing signal and transmits data based
 on a detecting timing of said synchronizing signal, comprising:

input means for being input with a received signal;
 synchronizing signal detecting means for detecting a synchronizing signal contained in said received signal
 from said received signal; and
 40 transmitting means for transmitting data based on a detecting timing of said synchronizing signal; wherein
 said synchronizing signal detecting means comprising:

45 detecting means for detecting a predetermined signal from said received signal;
 averaged amplitude detecting means for detecting an average amplitude of said received signal;
 normalizing means for normalizing an output of said detecting means based on an output of said average
 amplitude detecting means; and
 comparing means for comparing the output of said detecting means normalized by said normalizing means
 with a threshold value to thereby output a correlation detecting signal; wherein
 50 said received signal is expressed in a complex number, and said average amplitude detecting means
 finds the average amplitude based on an absolute value of a real part and an absolute value of an imaginary
 part of said received signal expressed in the complex number.

49. A method for correlation detection for detecting a correlation between a predetermined code and a received code,
 comprising:

55 a code detecting step for detecting said predetermined code from said received signal;
 an average amplitude detecting step for detecting an average amplitude of said received signal;
 a normalizing step for normalizing an output of said code detecting step based on an output of said average

amplitude detecting step; and
 a step for comparing an output of said code detecting step normalized by said normalizing step with a threshold value to thereby output a correlation detecting signal; wherein
 said received signal is expressed in a complex number, and said average amplitude detecting step finds the average amplitude based on an absolute value of a real part and an absolute value of an imaginary part of said received signal expressed in the complex number.

50. A communication method for receiving a received signal containing a synchronizing signal and demodulating said received signal, comprising:

an input step for being input with a received signal;
 a synchronizing signal detecting step for detecting a synchronizing signal contained in said received signal from said received signal; and
 a demodulating step for demodulating and outputting a desired portion of said received signal based on a detecting timing of said synchronizing signal; wherein
 said synchronizing signal detecting step having;

a detecting step for detecting a predetermined signal from said received signal;
 an average amplitude detecting step for detecting an average amplitude of said received signal;
 a normalizing step for normalizing an output of said detecting step based on an output of said average amplitude detecting step; and
 a comparing step for comparing an output of said detecting step normalized by said normalizing step with a threshold value to output a correlation detecting signal; wherein
 said received signal is expressed in a complex number, and said average amplitude detecting step finds the average amplitude based on an absolute value of a real part and an absolute value of an imaginary part of said received signal expressed in the complex number.

51. A communication method for receiving a received signal containing a synchronizing signal and transmitting data based on a detecting timing of said received signal, comprising:

an input step for being input with a received signal;
 a synchronizing signal detecting step for detecting a synchronizing signal contained in said received signal from said received signal; and
 a transmitting step for transmitting data based on a detecting timing of said synchronizing signal; wherein
 said synchronizing signal detecting step having:

a detecting step for detecting a predetermined signal from said received signal;
 an average amplitude detecting step for detecting an average amplitude of said received signal;
 a normalizing step for normalizing an output of said detecting step based on an output of said average amplitude detecting step; and
 a comparing step for comparing an output of said detecting step normalized by said normalizing step with a threshold value to output a correlation detecting signal; wherein
 said received signal is expressed in a complex number, and said average amplitude detecting step finds the average amplitude based on an absolute value of a real part and an absolute value of an imaginary part of said received signal expressed in the complex number.

52. A correlation detection device for detecting code sequence to be detected from an input signal using correlation, comprising:

amplitude processing means for detecting an amplitude from said input signal, and performing predetermined process;
 matched filter means for outputting an correlation value signal upon detecting the correlation of said code sequence to be detected; and
 comparison means for comparing the output of said matched filter means with a threshold value to output a correlation detecting signal; wherein
 said amplitude processing means performs predetermined process to be normalized the output of said matched filter means.

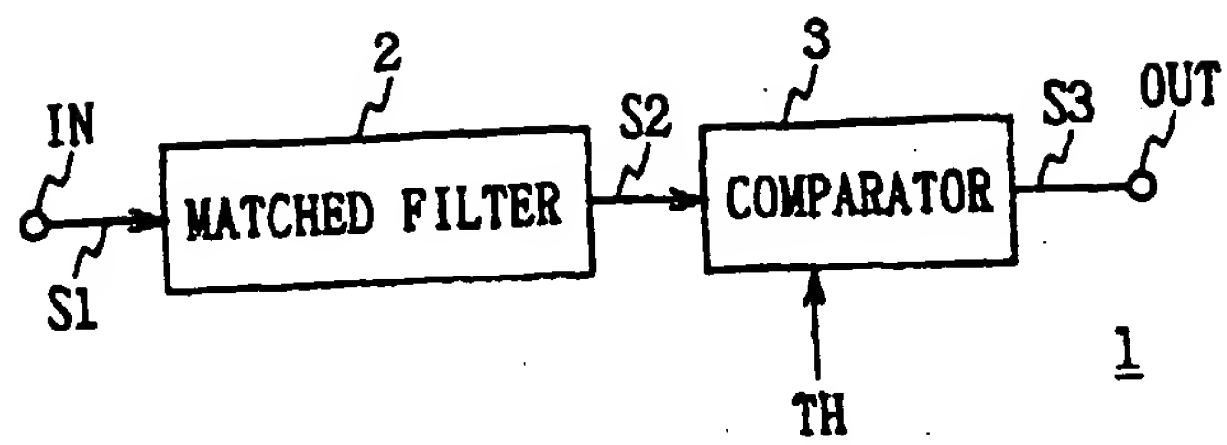


FIG. 1 (RELATED ART)

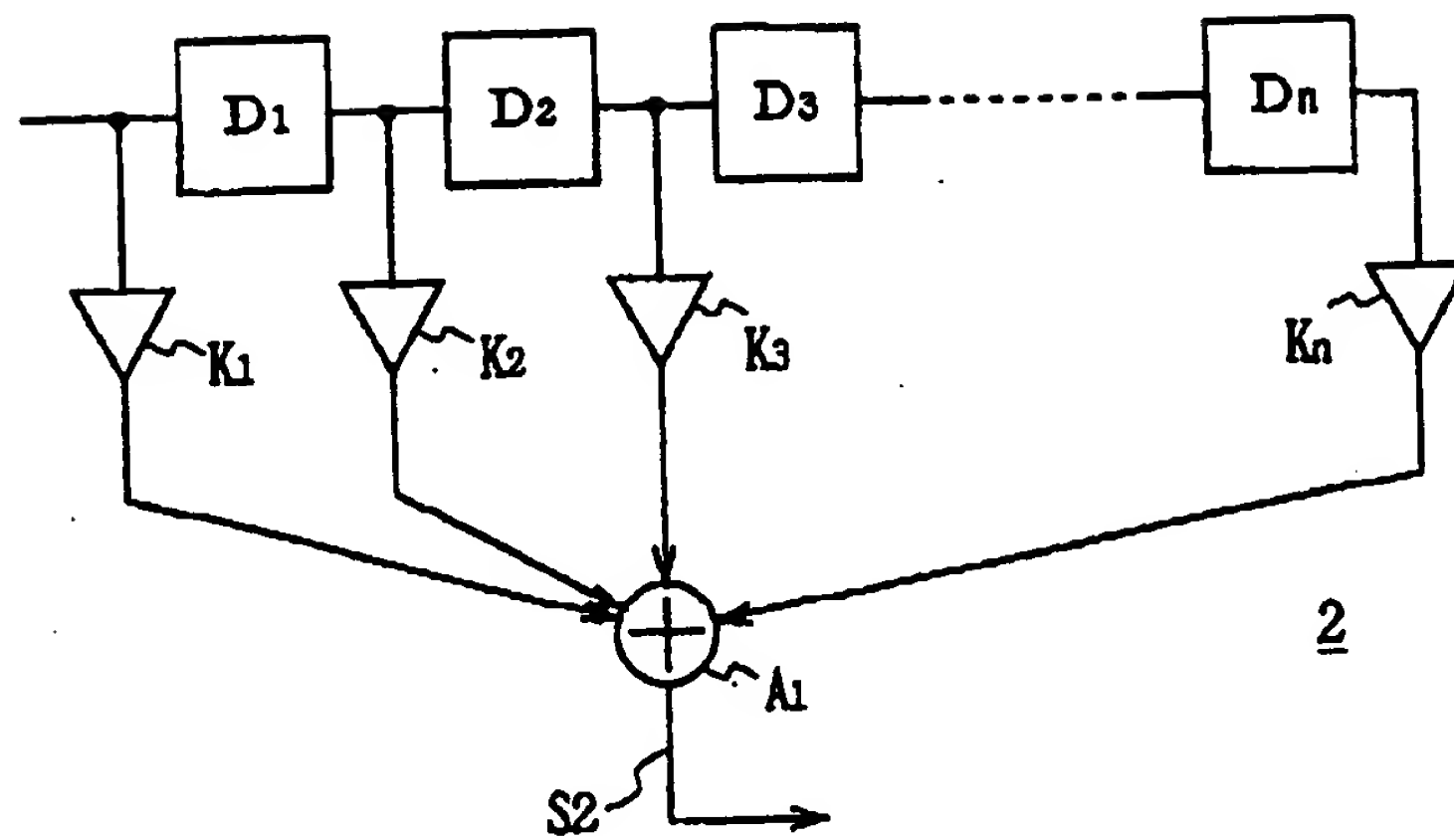


FIG. 2 (RELATED ART)

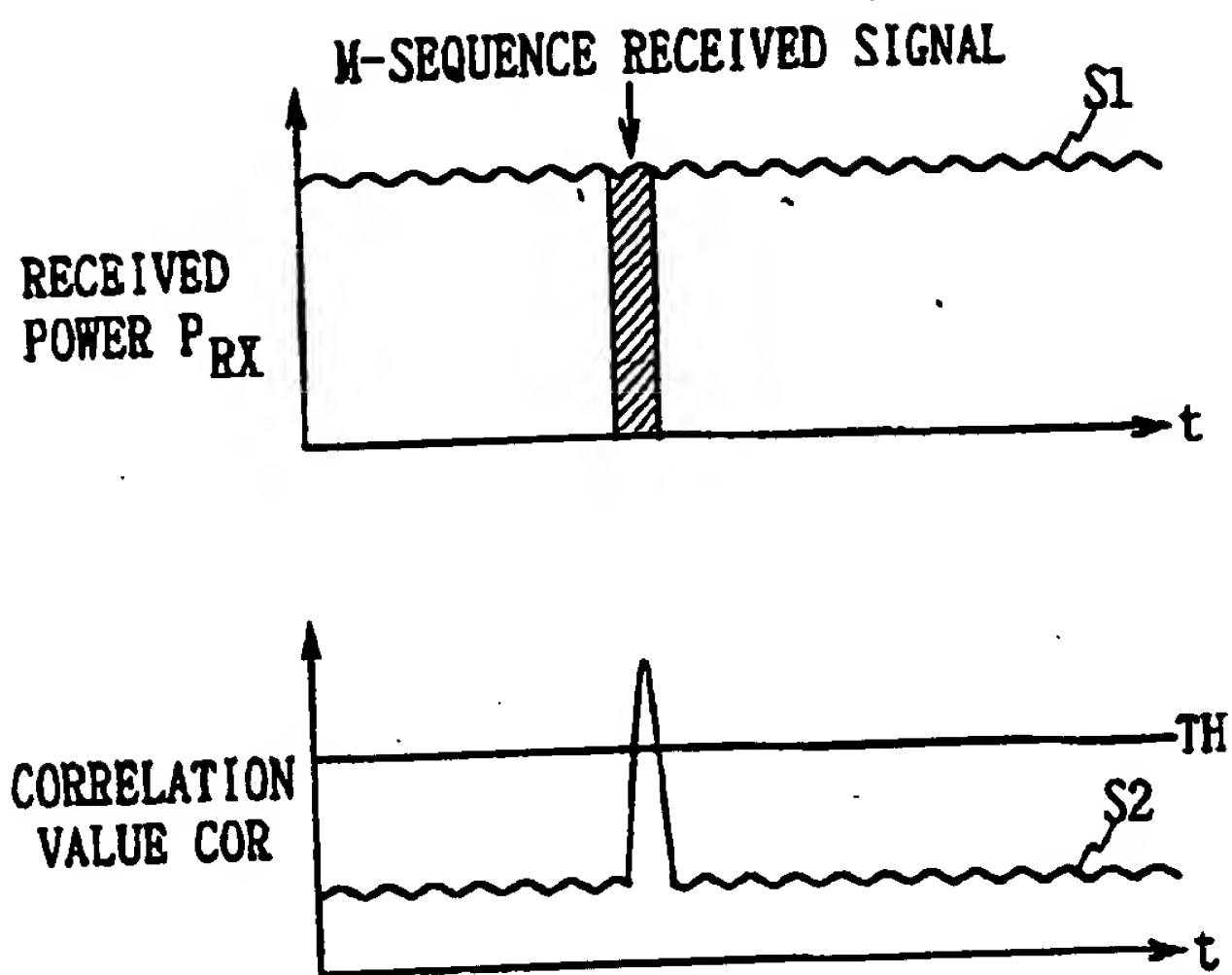


FIG. 3A (RELATED ART)

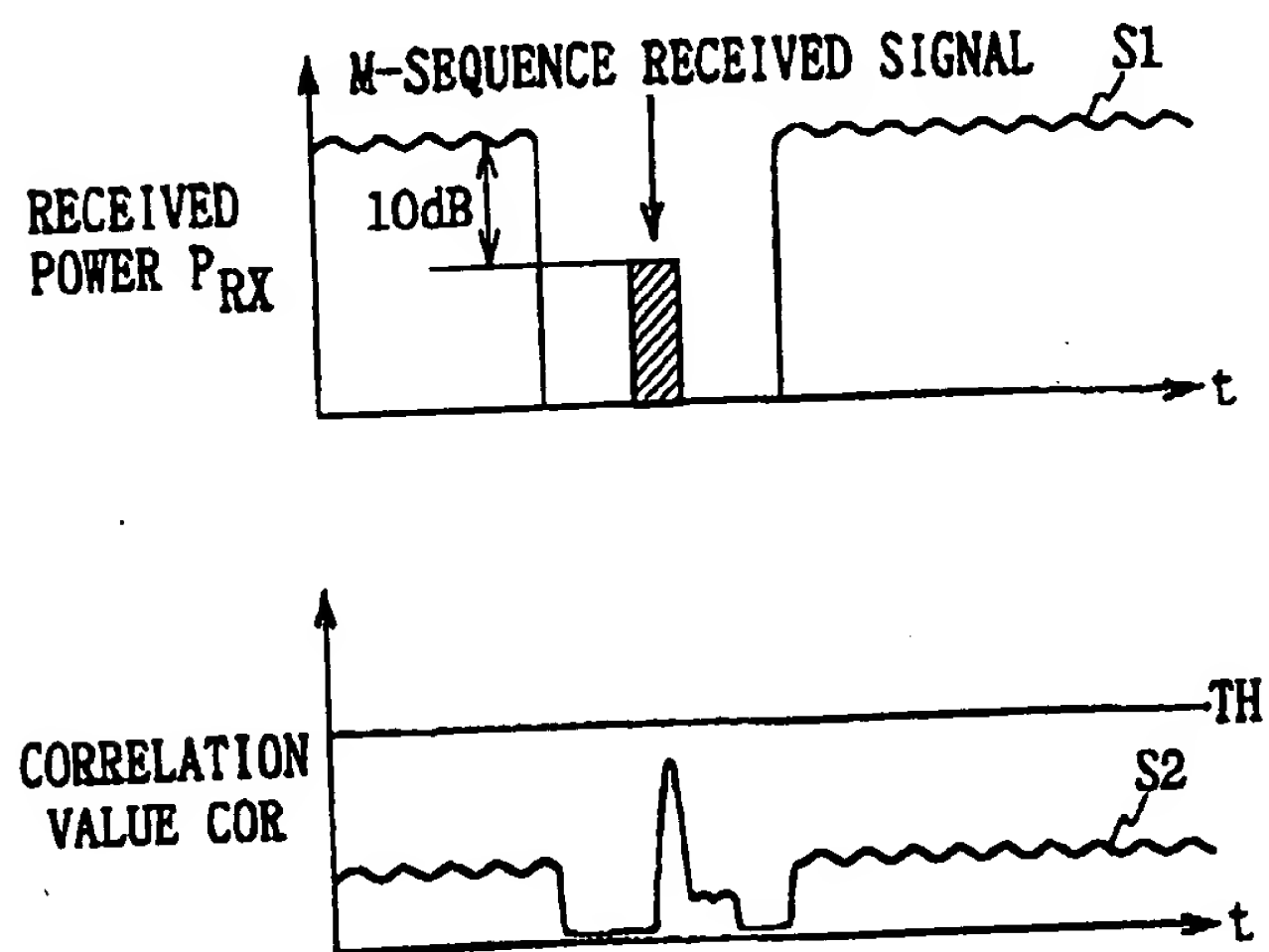


FIG. 3B (RELATED ART)

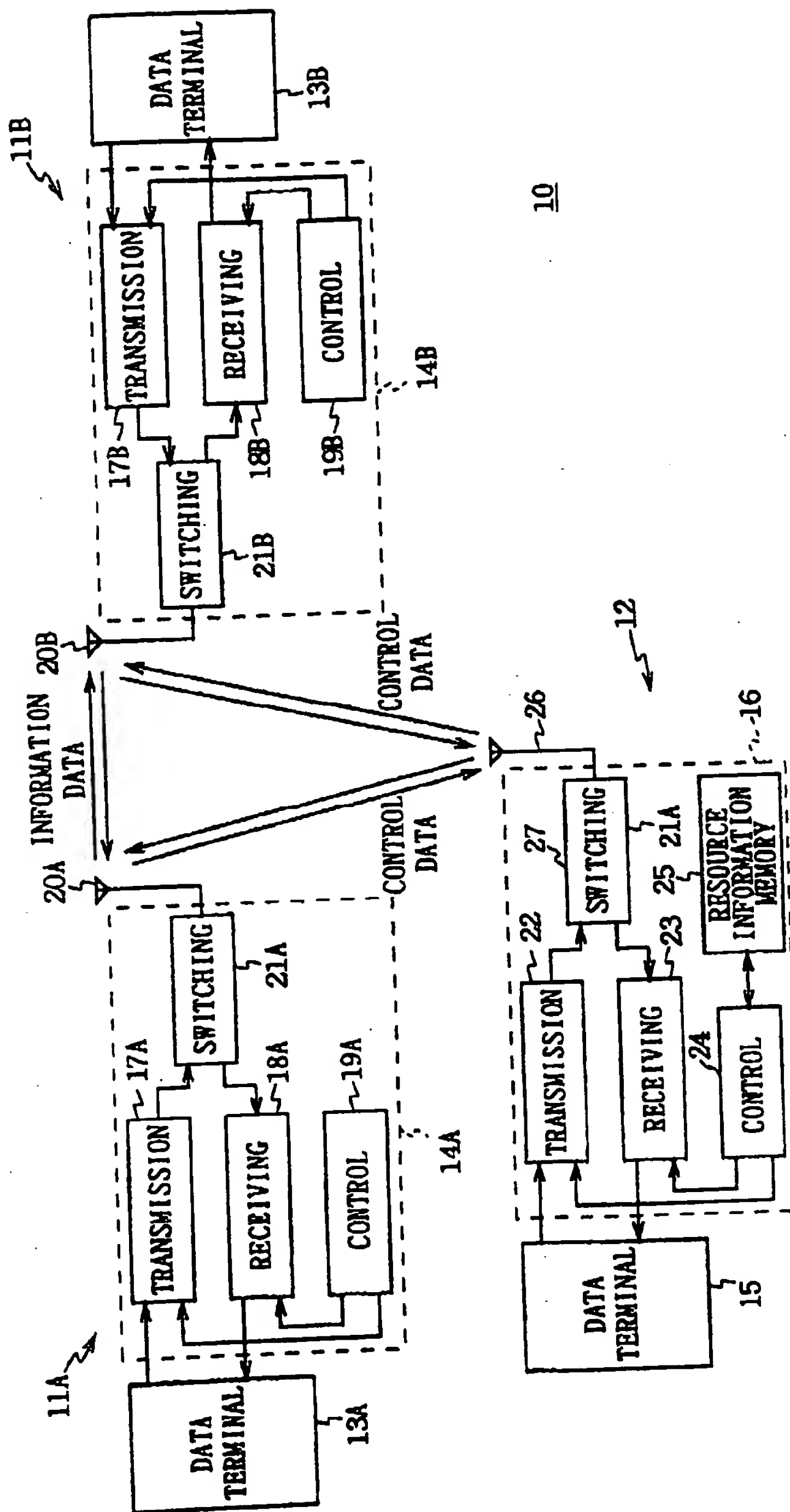
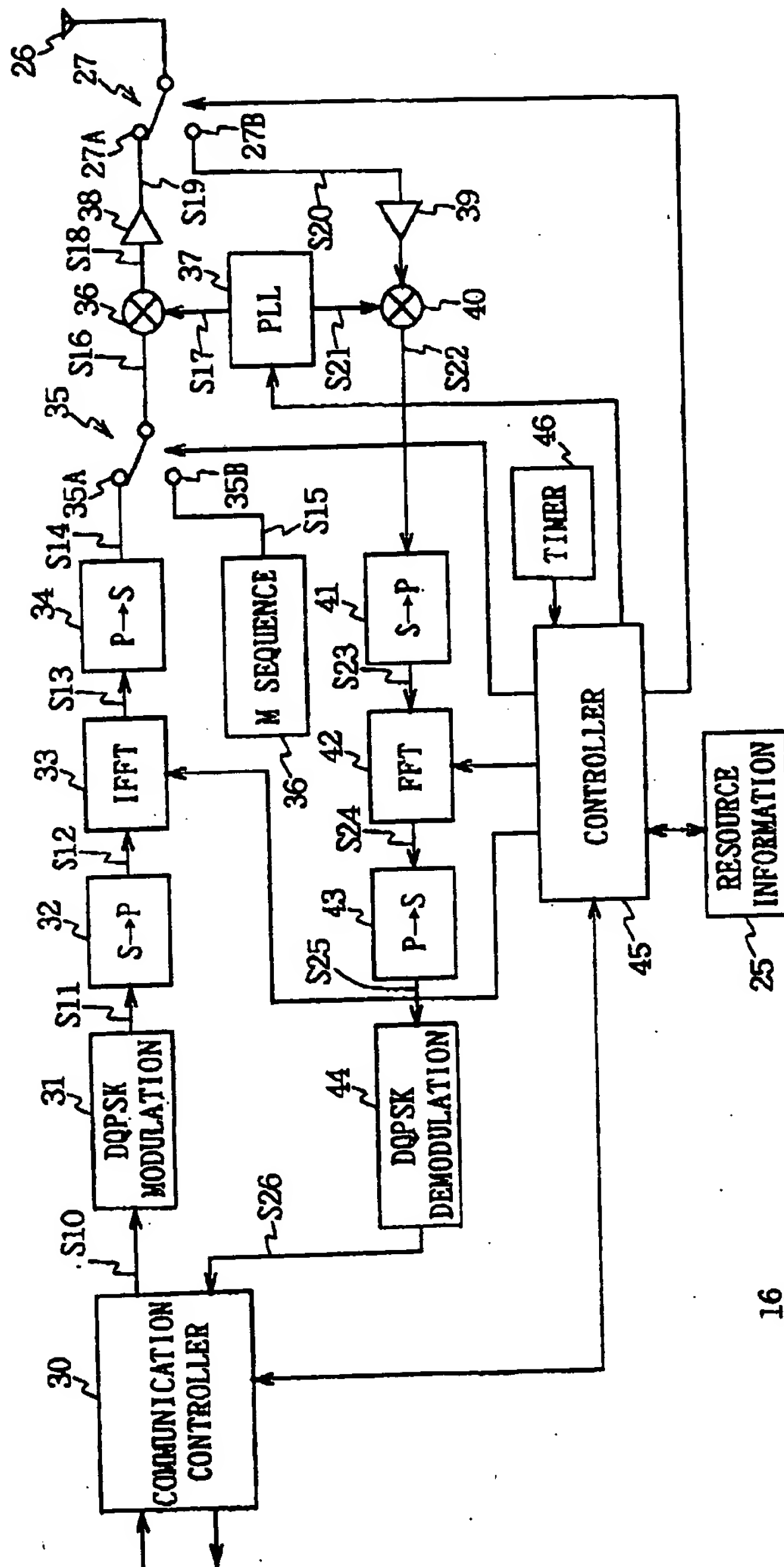


FIG. 4



56E

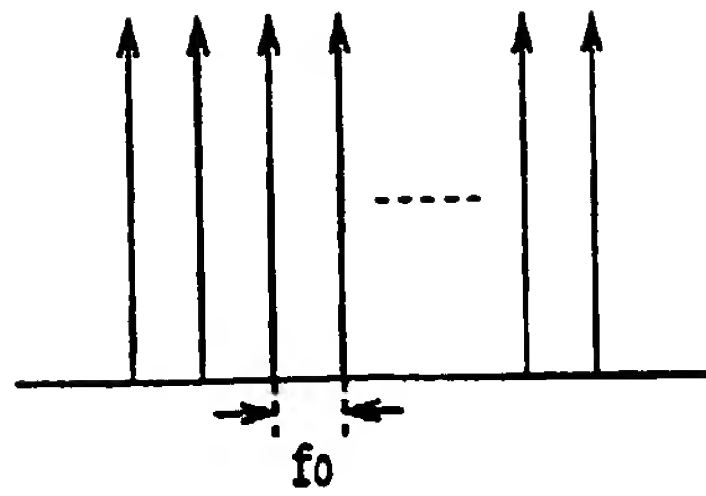


FIG. 6

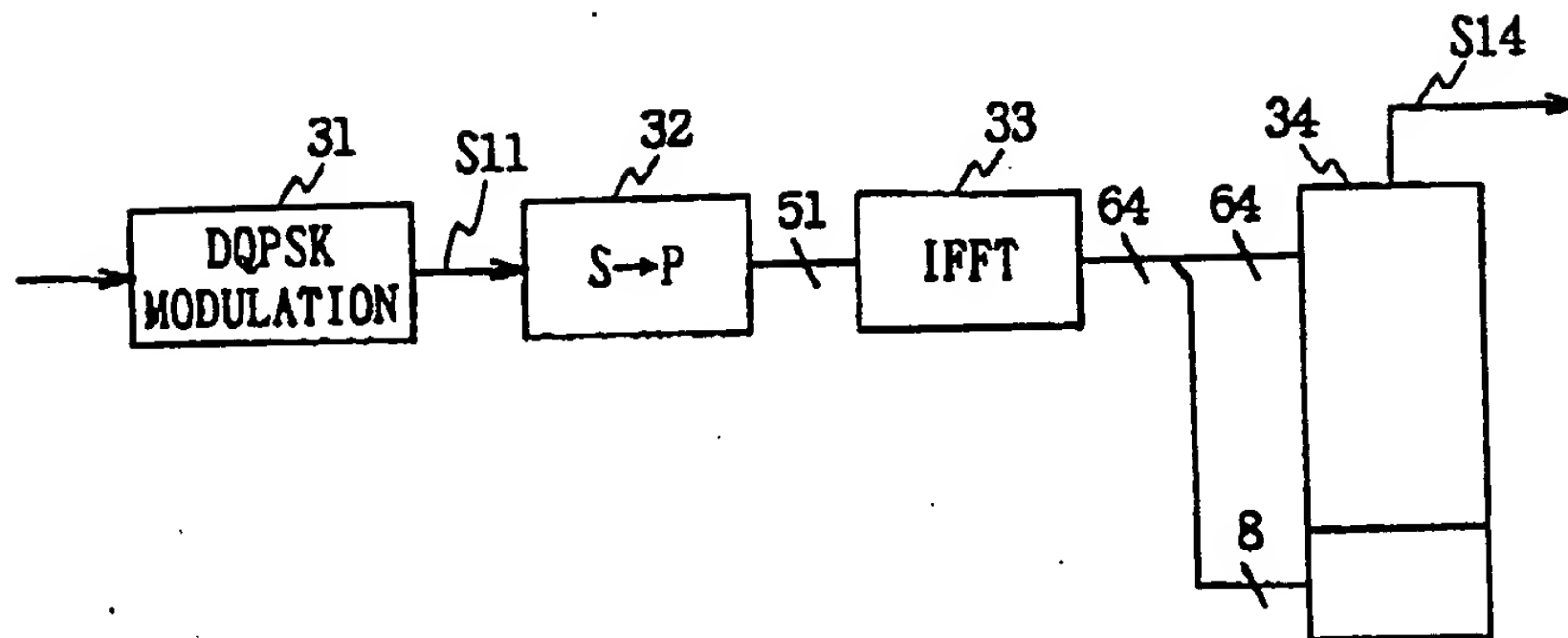


FIG. 7

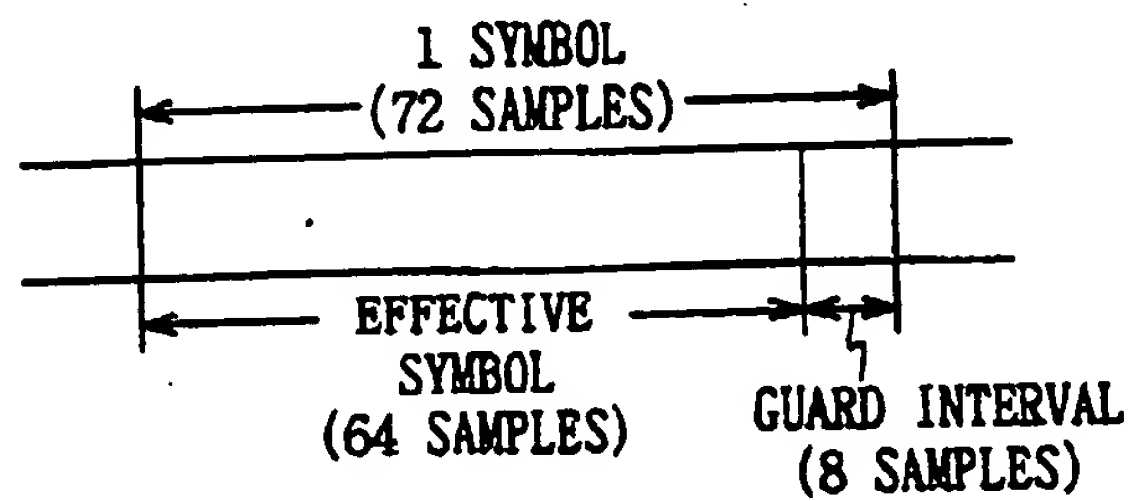


FIG. 8

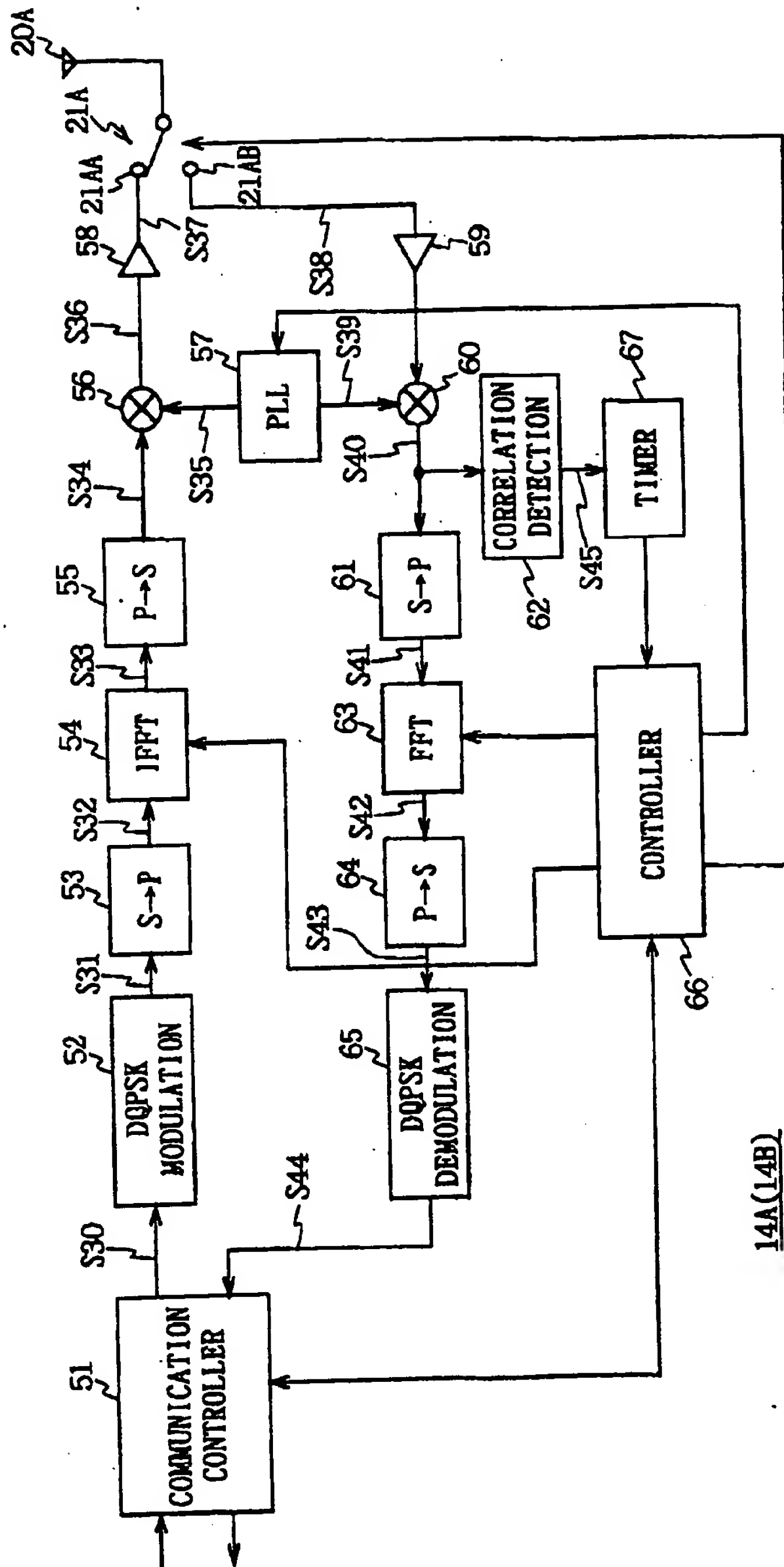


FIG. 9

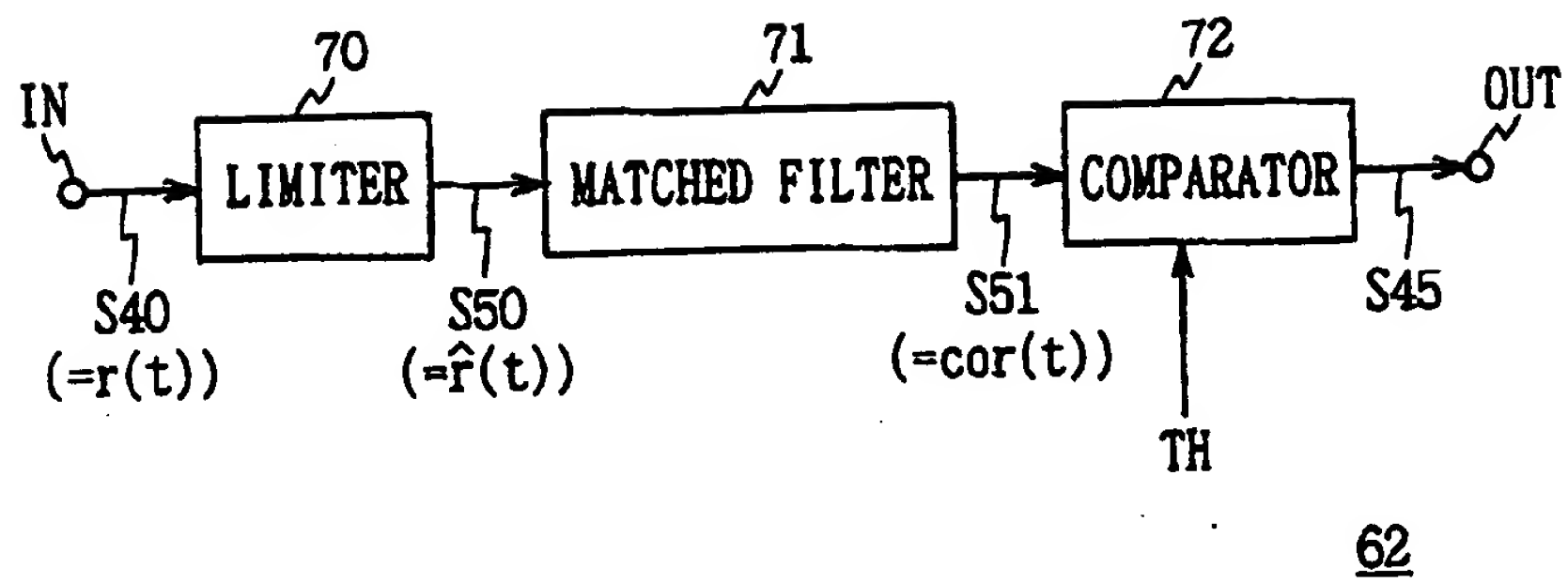


FIG. 10

FIG. 11 A

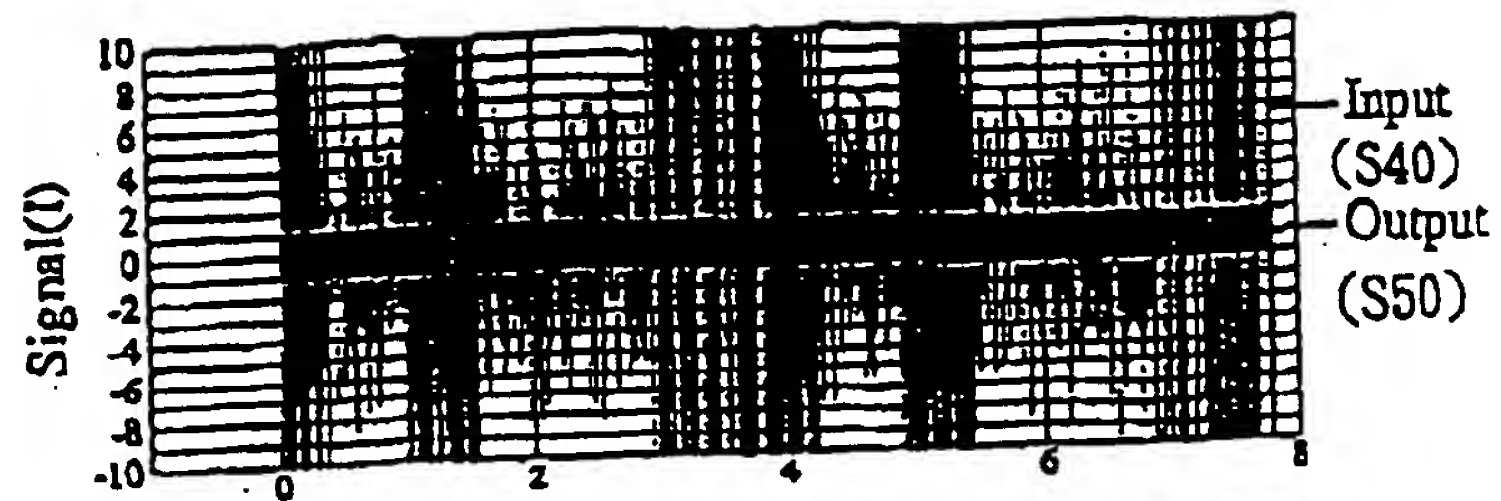


FIG. 12

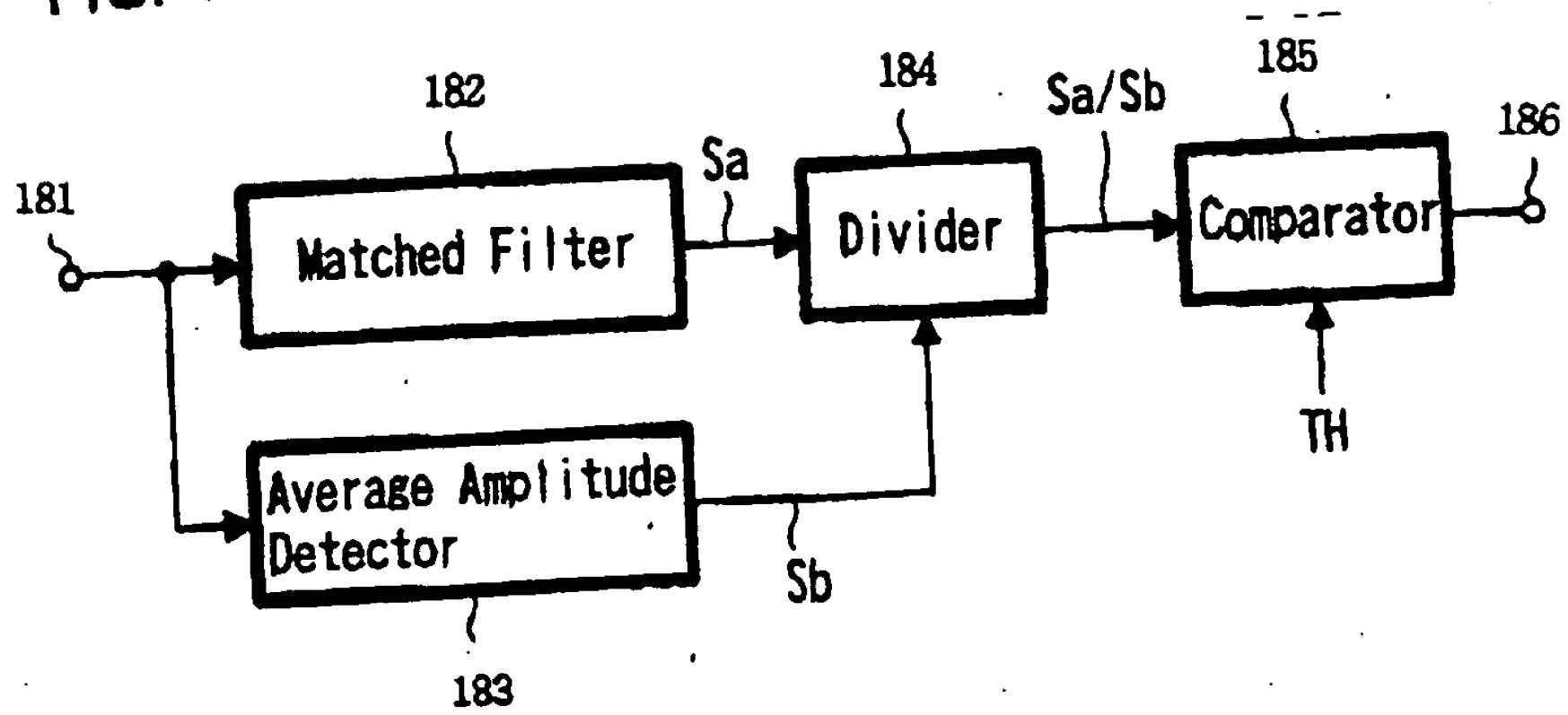


FIG. 13A

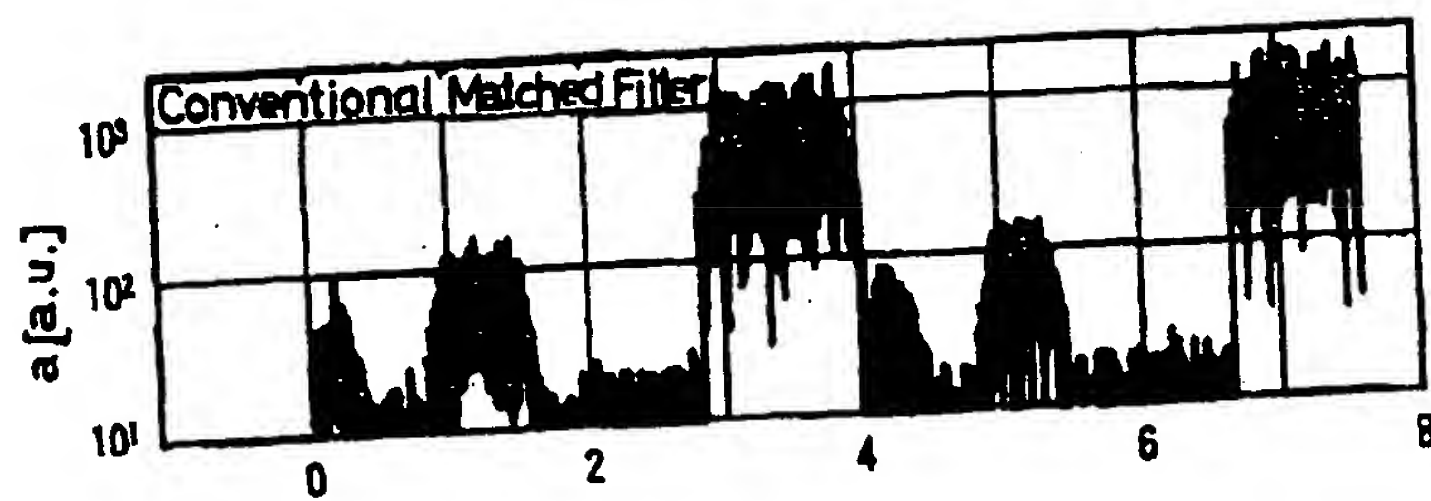


FIG. 13B

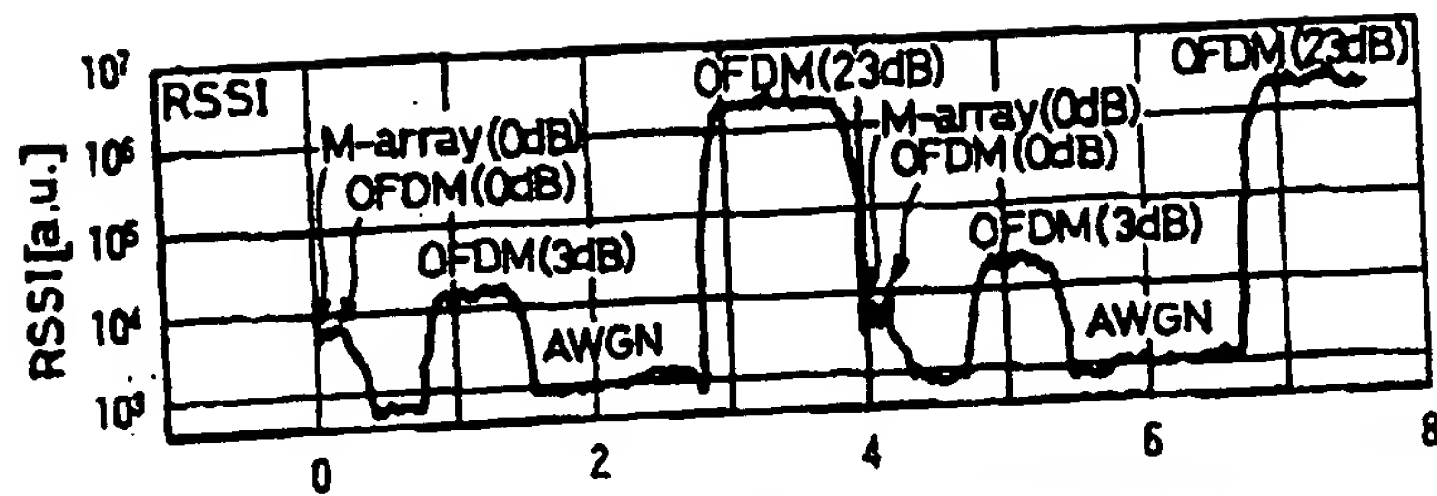
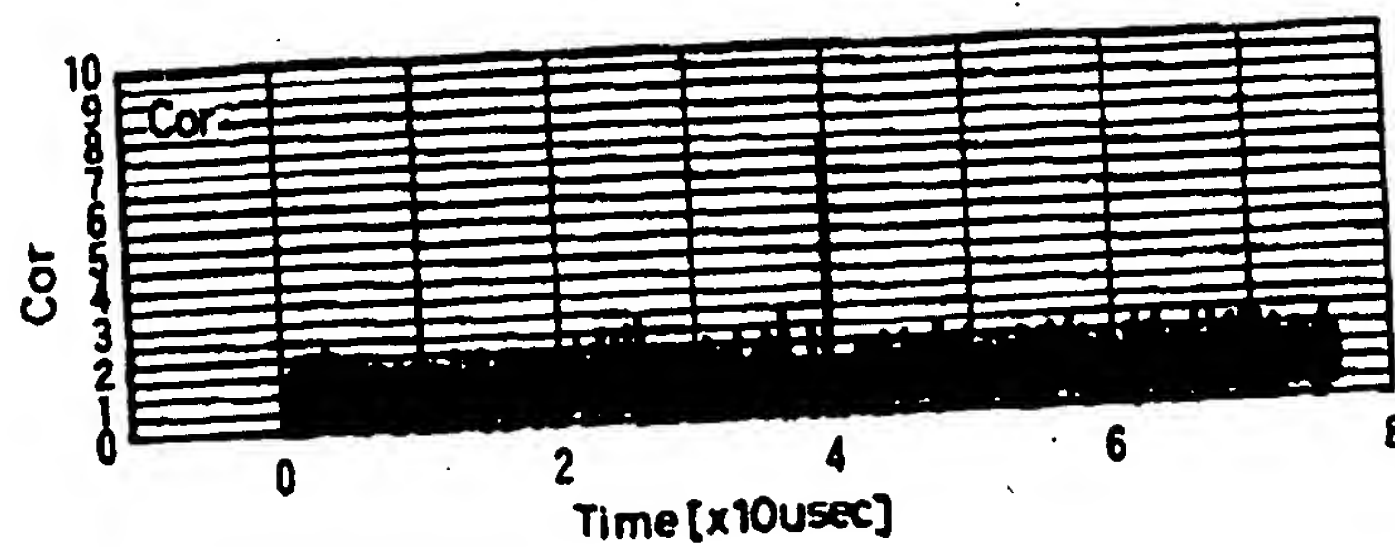


FIG. 13C



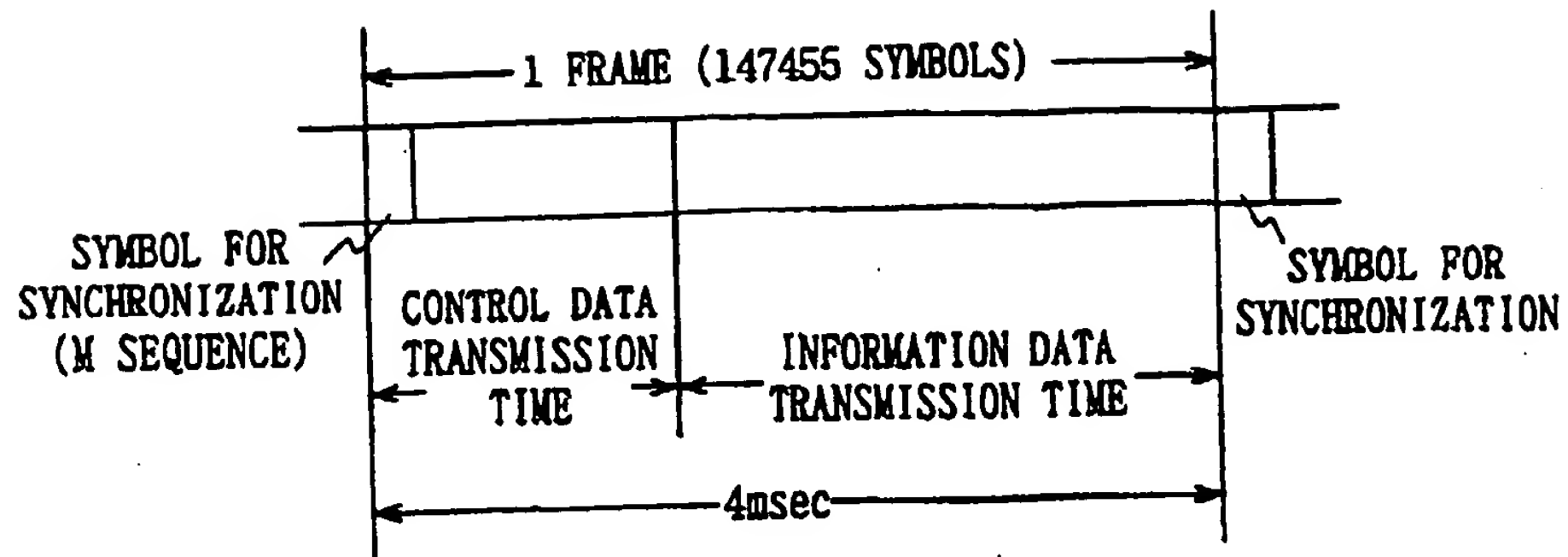


FIG. 14

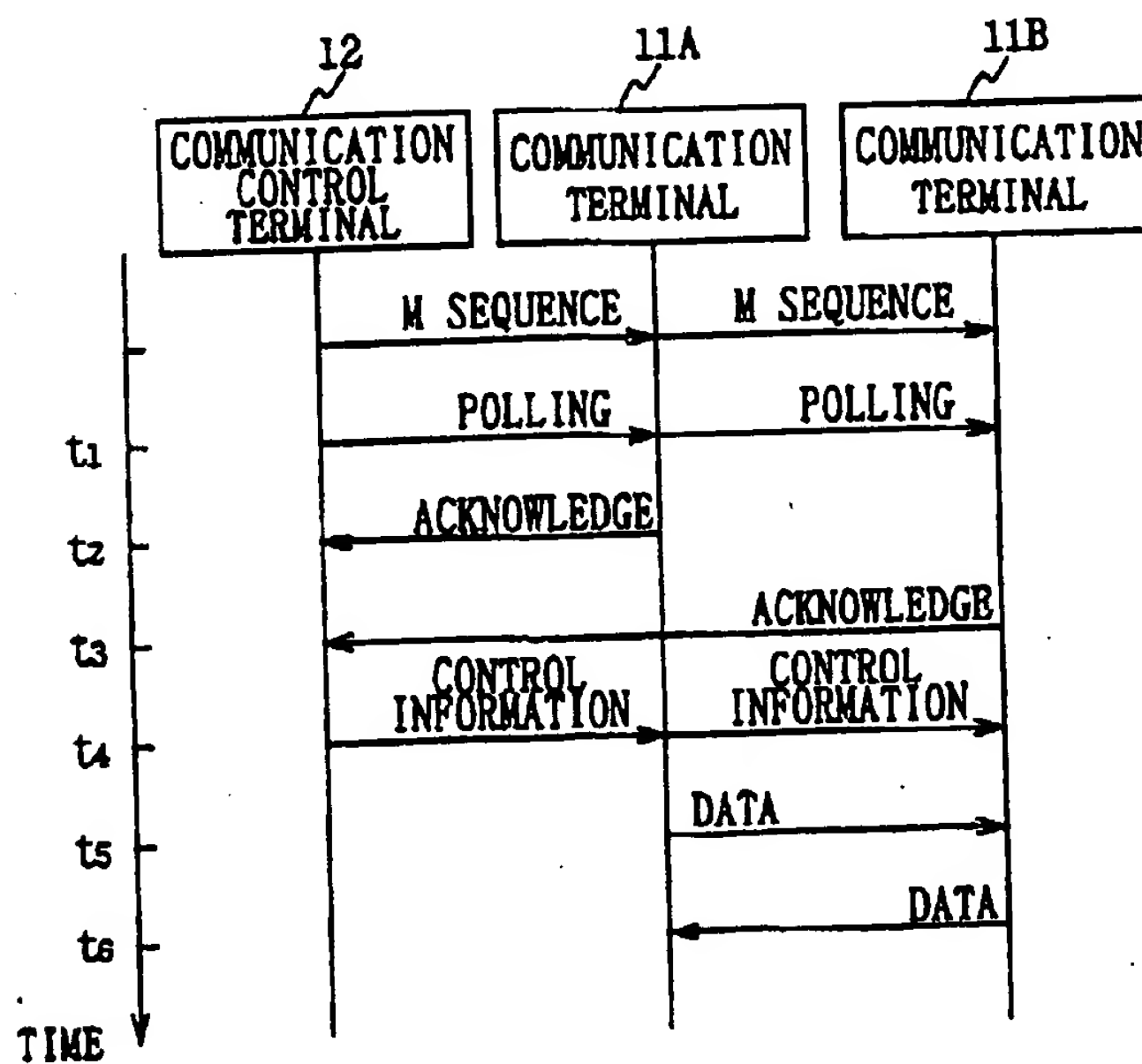


FIG. 15

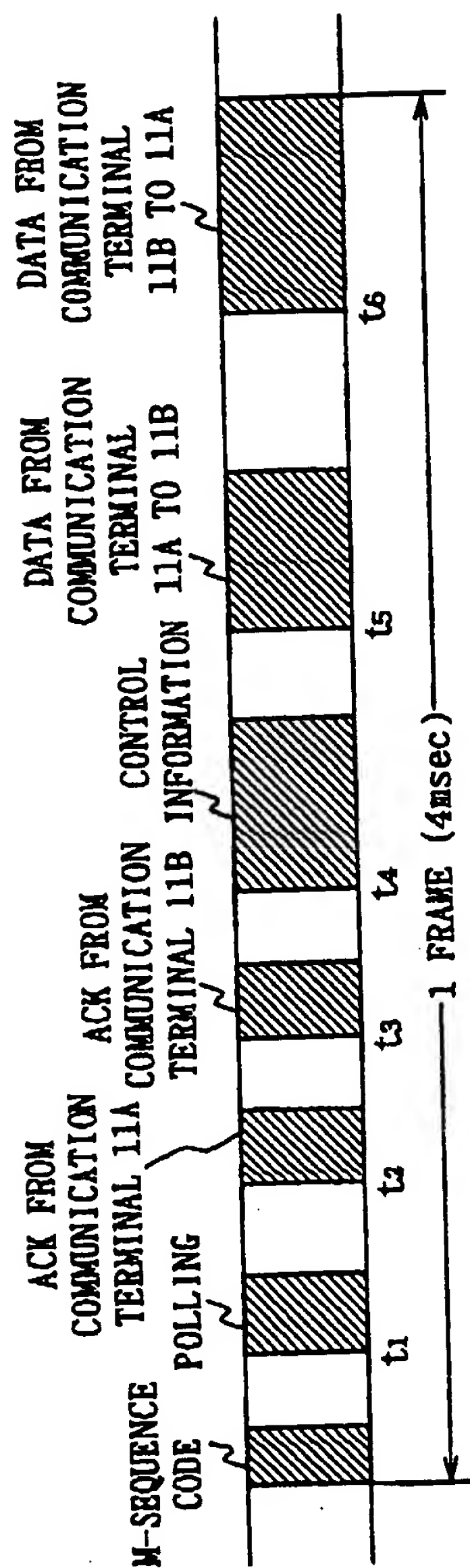


FIG. 16

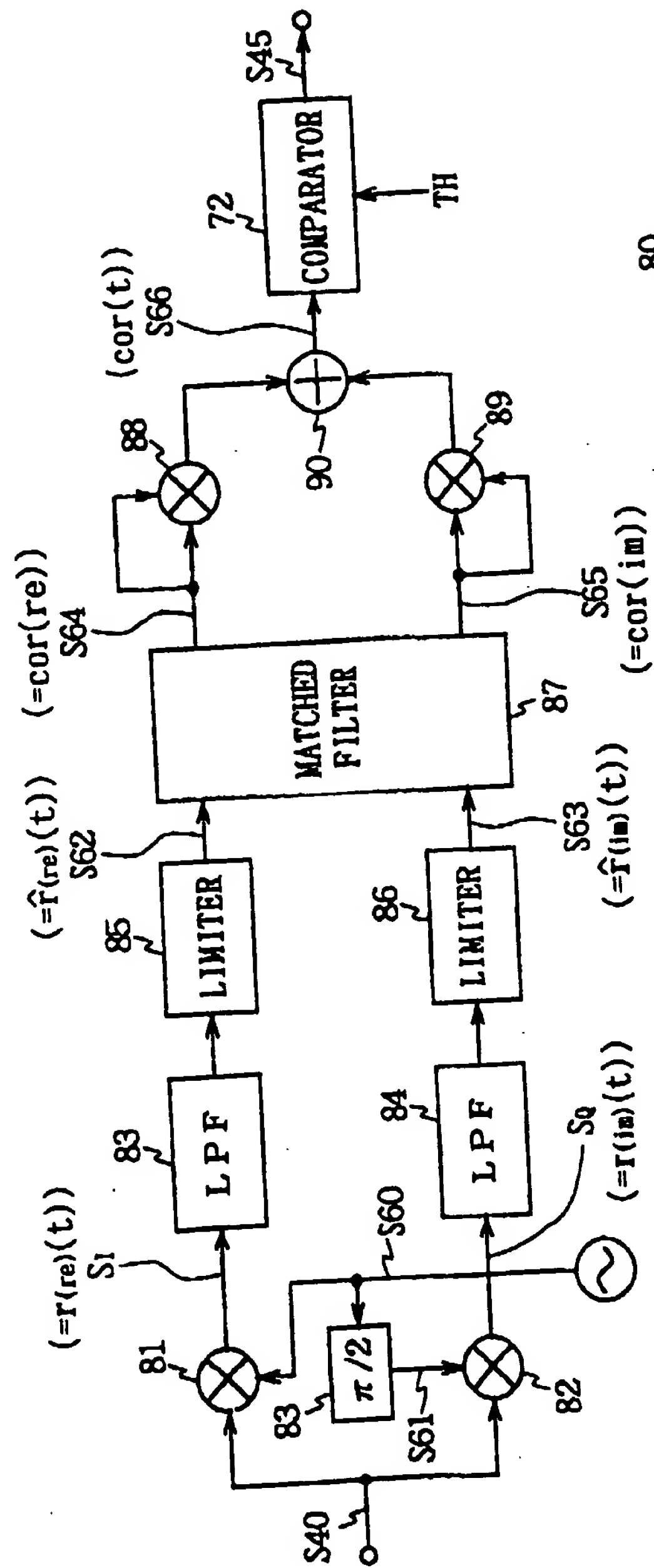


FIG. 17

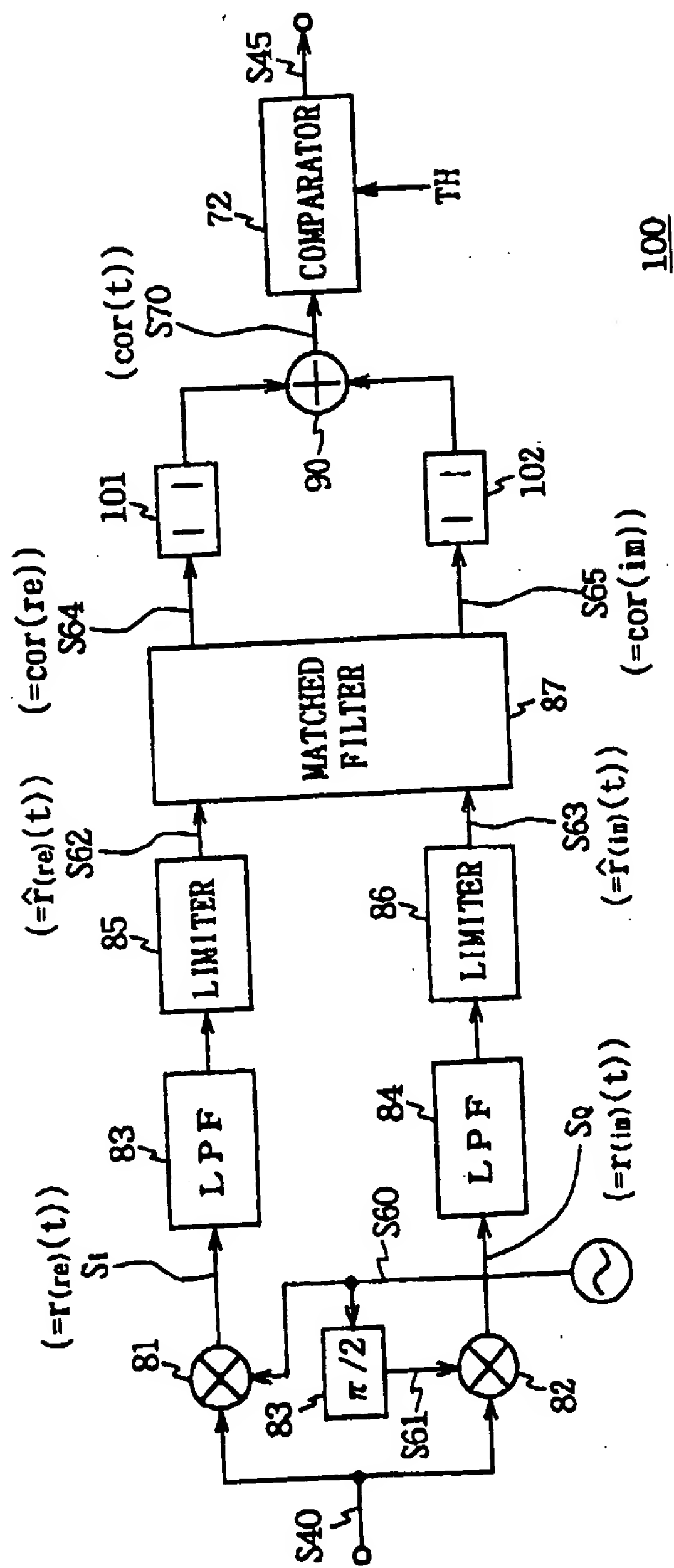


FIG. 18

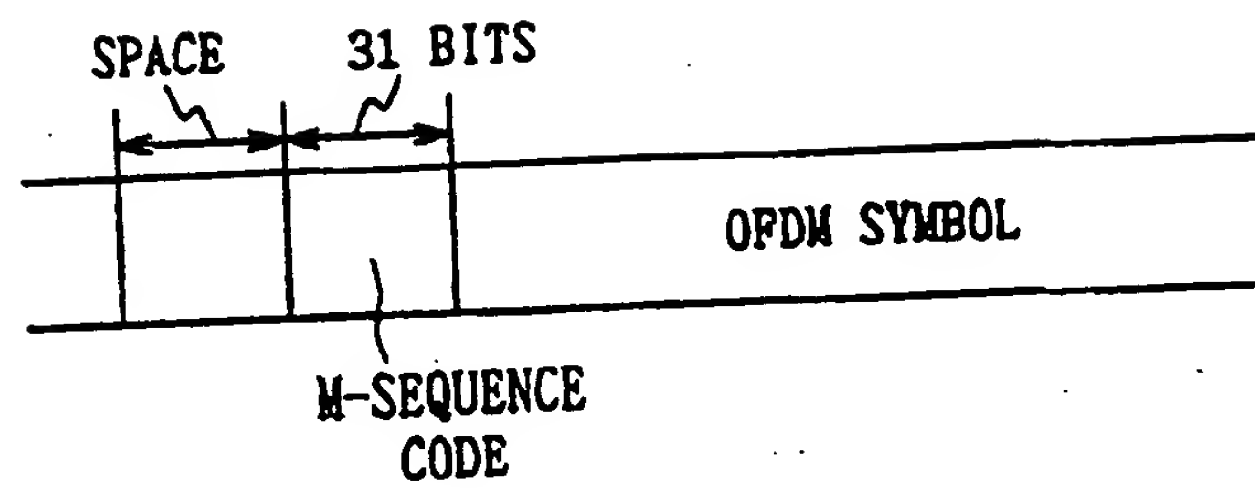


FIG. 19

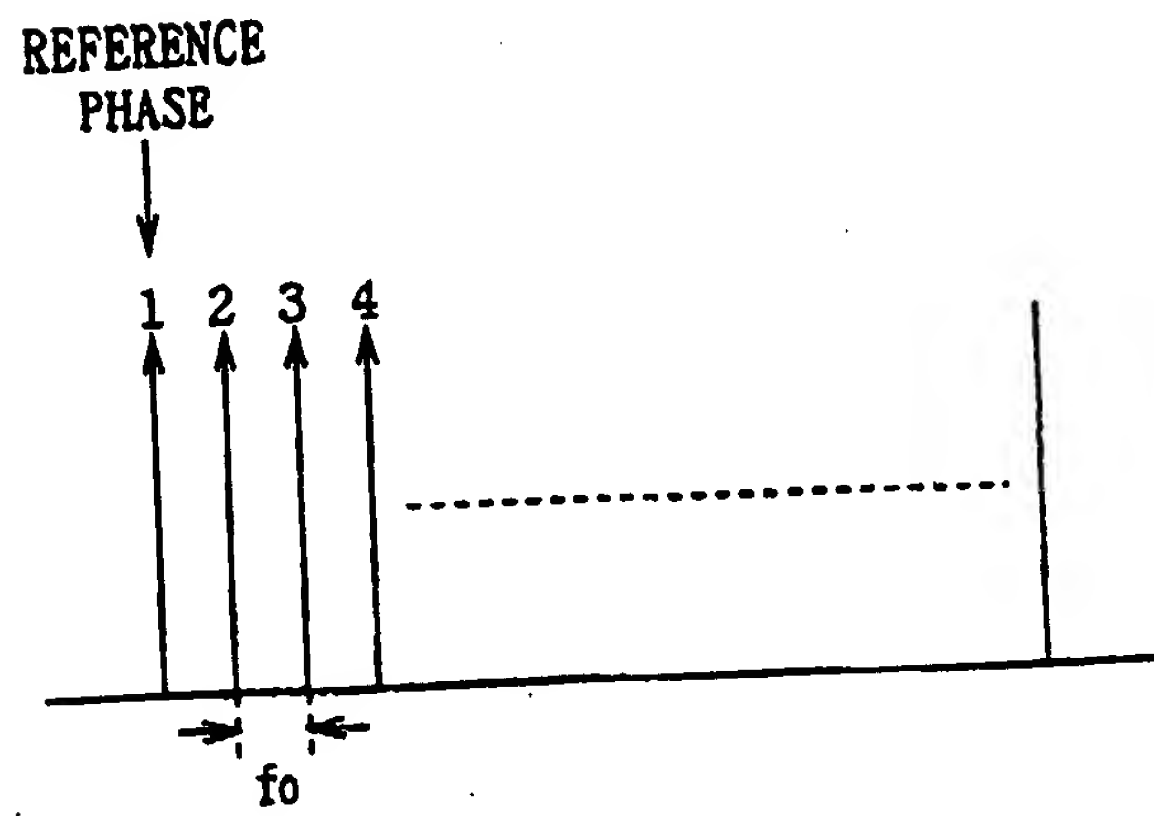


FIG. 20